

HOME NEWS

Councils warned on suspect roofs after school collapse

Local authorities and building owners have been warned that buildings with a roof similar to that which collapsed at a London school must be regarded as suspect and should be either repaired or made temporarily safe.

Patients sit in over action by nurses

From Our Correspondent Haywards Heath. Thirty patients at St Francis Hospital, Haywards Heath, where 230 nurses are taking industrial action over their pay claim, staged a sit-down protest yesterday.

Bipartisan policy on Northern Ireland battered but intact

By Michael Hatfield Political Staff. The bipartisan policy pursued in Westminster on Northern Ireland was looking distinctly battered, although still intact, last night with a two-day emergency debate in the Commons due next week, there was overt criticism from all three parties of some of the attitudes adopted by the Government.

of all that the kind of address Mr Wilson saw fit to make last Saturday was to deliver a code de grace to power sharing. If political leaders are so misinterpreted the nature of the people of Northern Ireland, how in the world can we expect patience and sympathy from our own people?

"The second lesson is that one should not underestimate the strength of feeling of the Protestant majority. The third is that one should never seek to ignore, or circumvent, or frustrate the democratic verdict of the people. One can imagine what would have happened in Britain if Mr Heath had refused to resign, despite the clear rejection of his policies by the electorate."

Nationalism recognized as a major force

Continued from page 1. that the three loyalists foresee a consultative assembly in which only Ulstermen would talk together.



Mr Rees at a press conference at Stormont Castle yesterday, when he acknowledged that Ulster nationalism is now a major force in the province.



Mr Deacon said last night: "My wife and I do not see why the sins of the children should be visited upon the parents. We understand their anguish and they should not be punished."

Mr Powell and MP flying to see 'loyalists'

From Stewart Tendler Belfast. Mr Enoch Powell and Mr Tam Dalyell, two politicians whose views on the future of Northern Ireland have caused controversy in the Government and Opposition, are flying to Ulster to meet the men who brought down the power sharing Executive.

Mr Powell on his visit to Northern Ireland will meet Mr Gerry West, leader of the Ulster Unionist Party, and other political figures.

Oil refinery strike begins to bite

From Ronald Faux Edinburgh. The jobs of thousands of workers in Scotland may depend on meetings this weekend between the two sides in the unofficial strike at the BP Grangemouth oil refinery.

mass meeting of the men will be held at Grangemouth town hall tomorrow afternoon.

Way is open for end to Nalogo action

By Raymond Perman Labour Staff. The way was opened last night for an end to the industrial action by 1,000 members of the National and Local Government Officers' Association over London weighting allowances.

Peerage for Mrs Williams indefensible, MP says

By George Clark Political Correspondent. The award of a life peerage to Mrs Marcia Williams, Mr Wilson's personal and political secretary, has been described as indefensible.

Overpayments to 100 lecturers

Nearly a hundred college lecturers in Nottingham who have been overpaid by mistake for the past three years are likely to be allowed to keep the money amounting to several thousand pounds.

Weather forecast and recordings

Table with weather forecast and recordings for various locations including London, Edinburgh, and Glasgow.

Jury stops trial and acquits detective on bribe charge

A Central Criminal Court jury yesterday stopped the trial of Detective Constable Paul Jones, aged 32, of Barry Walk, Shirley, Surrey, and found him not guilty of conspiracy to pervert the course of justice.

Soldier allowed to keep gun that killed his mother

Private Kevin Parsons, aged 19, was yesterday allowed to keep the pistol with which he shot dead his mother in an anti-aircraft gun in Northern Ireland. He pleaded guilty at Keshmash Magistrates' Court, Somerset, to two charges under the Firearms Act of keeping a gun and ammunition at his home in Coronation Street, Keshmash, in 1968.

Emergency landing

A Dan-Air Skyways Boeing 727, carrying 115 holidaymakers from Manchester to Malaga, made an emergency landing at Gatwick airport yesterday after an engine cowling fell off.

The mind of a modern Machiavelli

The Israel-Syria settlement is apparently another Kissinger peace-making miracle. How are they performed? Tomorrow The Sunday Times publishes an intimate account of how Dr Kissinger exercised the peace States from Vietnam; the peace may be a sham, but the full story of Dr Kissinger's role reveals a fascinating diplomatic style, shot through with secrecy and ambiguity, in which he brilliantly manipulates friend and foe alike.

Women invade the 'Naval and Military' world

From Philip Howard. From today women become as nearly as they are ever likely to be members of the Naval and Military Club, the masculine enclave in Piccadilly known familiarly to military wits as the "In and Out", because of the signs on its twin doors.

Blended butter prices will be allowed to rise

The Government has yielded to pressure from butter blenders by allowing them to raise prices without asking the Price Commission to accept them.

Sir Donald Maitland

Sir Donald Maitland, until recently head of the British mission to the United Nations, is to be replaced at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in charge of economic questions.

At the resorts

Table with weather forecasts for various resorts including E Coast, S Coast, and W Coast.

June forecast

The Meteorological Office last night issued the following forecast for June: The weather is expected to remain so unsettled and so to become a storm of the first week, with rain at times in all areas, although amounts in the south are likely to be a predominance of W weather types, especially in the second half of the month.

Yesterday

Table with weather recordings for various locations including London, Edinburgh, and Glasgow.

HOME NEWS

New screening method is aid to earlier diagnosis of cancer

By Pearce Wright
Science Correspondent

A new ultrasonic method of making early diagnosis of cancer by obtaining shaded pictures from echo patterns has been developed by the Institute of Cancer Research and the Royal Marsden Hospital, London. A report from the two organisations, yesterday described the technique as a big advance in cancer screening.

Fifteen patients a day can be examined to look for tumour formations as small as two to five millimetres in diameter, which are too difficult to identify by X-ray or other methods.

A specialist at the Royal Marsden Hospital said that perhaps the greatest advantage was the fact that there was no radiation hazard from the new technique. That allowed repeated use, and meant that regular screening could be done without risk. Ease of use also helped the clinician to monitor regularly the effect of drugs and other treatment.

The system is a development of the ultrasonic technique of bouncing high frequency sound waves from an object to create a picture from the echo pattern. The idea is used in medicine in pregnancy instead of X-ray examinations. However, the picture obtained for that purpose is several hundred times larger than the one for cancer screening, and the earlier application was also a straightforward black and white picture formation.

The advance, which has exciting possibilities for cancer screening, comes from the reproduction of a picture with many shades of grey, from which it is possible to identify tissues that are similar to each other in other types of examination. The technique has become known as "grey scale-echography".

At present about 15 patients are being screened daily as a complementary check to routine X-ray and isotope scanning investigations. In fact, it is a faster and more detailed method of analysis than the other systems, which have been used for many years.

The next development will be to link a mini-computer to the ultrasonic apparatus for the development of automatic diagnosis. It was emphasized that this is a long-term project. The most important work at present is in identifying objects of the liver and kidney, which are normally inaccessible organs to analysis. It is now possible to determine immediately whether a tiny lesion is a malignant growth or a harmless cyst.

An automatic scanner is being developed for breast screening, but it shows no marked advantage in speed over other methods. However, the experts believe that it can be effectively developed for that purpose.

Should a programme of mass screening be adopted on a regular basis, ultrasound has the overwhelming advantage of being hazard-free.

Home rule for Scots 'during next Parliament'

Scotland could have its own government within the lifetime of the next Parliament, Mr William Wolfe, chairman of the Scottish National Party, claimed yesterday.

Speaking at the party's annual conference in Eglis, he said that increasing support for the nationalists proved that a large number of Scots saw no reason for retaining the Westminster connexion.

The discovery of oil had changed Scotland's circumstances and prospects. It had also stimulated a widespread realization that there were many aspects of life which were being unfairly or unsensibly dealt with from London.

Scottish interests were being systematically ignored and undermined in many ways. They were being identified with English interests and values, whether Scots liked it or not.

If my prediction is fulfilled, the rising tide of support for the SNP will become a tidal wave, and we could win self-government in the life of the next Parliament," Mr Wolfe said.

The party was stronger than it had ever been, with 630,000 votes at the last election.

Mr Wolfe called for the resignation of Mr Ross, Secretary of State for Scotland, whose attitude to Scotland and the SNP was "rather old-fashioned and inflexible". He had failed to see that the centralist system of government, which he supported had failed Scotland.



The Queen unveiling a statue of Sir Robert Peel at the new Metropolitan Police training centre named after him in Hendon, London, yesterday.

Union rejects Murray appeal on pensions

By Alan Hamilton
Labour Staff

Civil Service union leaders yesterday rejected an appeal from Mr Leu Murray, TUC general secretary, to call off their ban on all work connected with the forthcoming increases in pensions. Higher old age pensions and other social security benefits, due to be introduced on July 22, will almost certainly be delayed.

Mr Murray called in leaders of the Civil and Public Services Association to tell them that there was great concern throughout the trade union movement at the association's action; the movement attached the highest priority to improved pensions, Mr Murray said.

But the CPSA leaders told Mr Murray they intended to proceed with their ban. They are seeking another meeting with Mrs Castle, Secretary of State for Social Services, at which they will repeat their demand for increased payments to compensate for the extra work involved in preparing the pension changes at short notice.

But the union has agreed to report Mr Murray's views in a circular to all its 208,000 members which was being prepared last night.

Mr William Keodell, general secretary of the union, said after his meeting with Mr Murray that the Department of Health and Social Security was chronically understaffed, social security legislation was constantly being changed, and the government decision to increase pensions, with its attendant extra workload, was the last straw.

He had pointed out to Mr Murray that the union leadership was tied by the democratic decisions of its social security members to proceed with the ban. Only a cash offer from the department would persuade them to call it off.

Mr Keodell said his members' difficulties were in part the outcome of previous occasions when department staff had been required to work excessive overtime to meet government changes in social security benefits.

The TUC general secretary had earlier told the union's leaders that he could understand their sense of frustration and the need to ensure that similar difficulties were avoided in future by improving arrangements, including an increase in the number of staff. But he pointed out that many of the association's demands were already in process of being met.

The department has offered the 50,000 social security staff involved in the changes extra time off to compensate for the long periods of overtime they will have to work to complete the changes, but this has been rejected.

Even if the ban were called off immediately, the association does not believe there is any possibility of the new pension payments being ready for July 22.

The CPSA is to be called next week to give an account of its action before the TUC's inner cabinet, the finance and general purposes committee.

Cooler weather will cut the hay fever season

By a Staff Reporter

The London pollen count, which warns hay fever sufferers of the amount of pollen in the air, begins on Monday. The Asthma Research Council will issue daily counts and forecasts to newspapers, radio, television and the telephone service, in London and the Home Counties.

Dr Roland Davies, head of the mycology department at St Mary's Hospital medical school, Paddington, said yesterday that the hay fever season this year would be shorter than usual because the recent cool weather had retarded grass pollen. Thus it was unlikely there would be a high count before June 10 and there would be very little pollen in the air after about the third week in July.

Dr Davies pointed out that the London and Home Counties count and forecast for the rest of any particular day could be taken as a good guide for the rest of Britain unless an individual area had a lot of rain.

Many people have suffered severe hay fever symptoms during May, the Asthma Research Council says, but this has probably been due to pollen from trees such as the plane and birch. To those who ask if there are any holiday areas in Britain where they can escape pollen, the council said:

"Where there is grass there is pollen. The pollen can be blown by the wind for long distances from countryside to distant towns and cities, so the air over almost the entire country contains some pollen during the season. Grass pollen was the commonest cause of hay fever.

The forecasts enable victims to seek medical advice about increasing preventive treatment. They can also close their windows at home, do shopping in the morning when the count is lower, and avoid picnics. Wearing spectacles or dark glasses can also help to protect the eyes from pollen, Dr Davies said.

The telephone number to call for the pollen count is 01-246 8091, which also gives the weather forecast.

Up before dawn tomorrow for the bird chorus

By a Staff Reporter

Tomorrow bird-watches all over Britain will rise before dawn to catch the passage of the dawn chorus as it travels across the country with the increasing light.

The study is part of the annual dawn watches organized since 1933 by Calvert and David Noble-Rohlf from the World Bird Research Station in Northumberland.

The direction of the dawn chorus changes with the seasons. At the equinox it moves across Britain from the east. But in June it is expected to travel down from the north-east.

Bird-watches wishing to take part in the survey should send their results, with a note of the weather and position of observation, to the World Bird Research Station, Glanton, Northumberland.

Police inquiry into hospital hanging deaths

Detectives were making further inquiries into the deaths of three patients at Warlingham Park Mental Hospital, Surrey, Colonel George McEwan, county coroner, said yesterday before adjourning the inquests at Reigate.

Joseph Mark Benjamin, aged 35, Malano Skok, aged 32, and Patrick Michael Tubridy, aged 26, were found hanging at the hospital. Mr Benjamin was found dead on May 24, Mr Skok on May 28, and Mr Tubridy the day after.

After hearing evidence of identification Colonel McEwan said: "On my instructions CID officers are making investigations into these unusual circumstances of three patients in the hospital found dead all by the same means. This is a very unusual occurrence."

Sixty parachutists will compete for titles

By Tony Geraghty

Free fall parachuting, the sport in which the competitors are largely invisible from the ground, begins a tenth annual championship meeting in an obscure part of Oxfordshire tomorrow. No spectators have been invited but if a passer-by happens to wander through the open gates of R.A.F. Westcott-on-Stoney, near Middleton, he will be welcome.

Following practice jumps today, 60 competitors aged between 20 and 42, including at least eight women, will make a total of 780 descents from two veteran Rapide biplanes. There are three events, individual accuracy, team accuracy and individual style, out of which five individual and two team championships will be won.

The accuracy events involve leaving the aircraft from 700 metres (individuals) or 1,000 metres (teams of four), opening the parachute after a short free fall, then attempting a dead centre landing on a 10-cm diameter disc in the centre of a gravel landing pit. Next, apart, the competitors must "read the sky" for themselves in deciding at what point they will tell the pilot to cut his engine before clambering on to the Rapide's port wing to begin the fall.

The precise parachute-opening point is also left to the individual, who then has to decide whether to run down wind or "put the brakes on" by facing upwind. Modern sport parachute canopies, some of them flat topped and shaped like cheese on toast, are extraordinarily accurate, and have swept the American championship board. The overall British champion,

Bob Hiatt, won his title with such a canopy last year.

In the style event the emphasis is on what happens before the "rig" is opened during the 30-second free fall from 2,000 metres. In this the competitor has to perform a programme of left and right turning, back loops, barrel rolls, stopping each individual manoeuvre to face in his original direction, while falling at terminal velocity of around 120 mph.

The event is one in which the invisibility of sport parachuting is most apparent. There are times when even the judges, studying each performance from the ground through powerful binoculars, have been known to lose someone in the high altitude haze.

Few surprises are expected in the men's events this year. Hiatt is defending his title.

The outcome of the women's title is more open. No entry had been received late this week from the reigning ladies' champion, Catherine Burroughs. The dedication of Tracy Rixon, a petite brunette who, like many parachutists, puts her sport before a career, makes her a formidable challenger. Another serious contender is Libby Davies, an attractive member of the Foreign Office staff.

In the team section the composition of the Parachute Regiment's Red Devils is a closely guarded secret, apparently for tactical reasons. A more open "novices' class", which removes the minimum entry qualification of 50 descents, has attracted 20 competitors this year, including The Times correspondent, compared with five in 1973.

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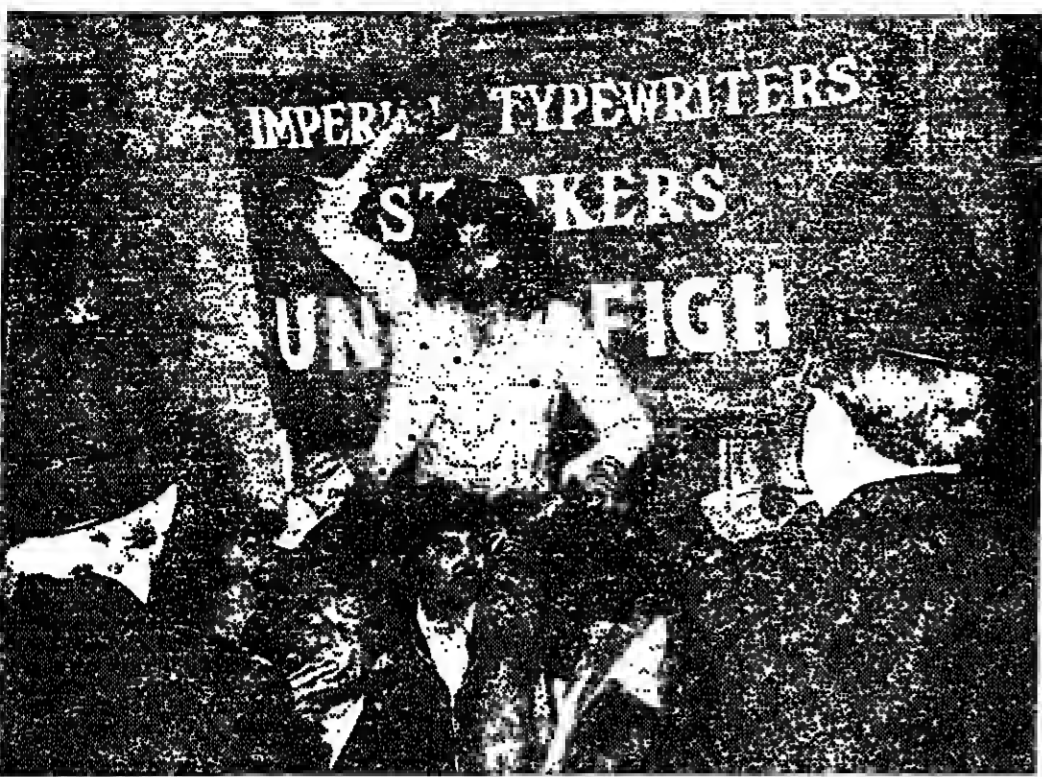
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HOME NEWS



Asian strikers from the Imperial typewriter factory, Leicester, demonstrating outside the headquarters of the Transport and General Workers' Union in London yesterday, demanding union backing.

Mr Jones to decide on inquiry by union into strike of Asians

By David Leigh
Mr Jack Jones, the general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, is to decide next week whether to hold a union inquiry into the Imperial typewriter factory dispute at Leicester, where 400 Asian workers have been on strike for a month.

them that there would be an inquiry into the Leicester strikers' handling of the dispute, they said.
But Mr Evans said later he had not made any promises about an inquiry. He favoured one, but a final decision on that would rest with Mr Jones. He would brief him on Monday.

Mr Evans said there would be a dispute over bonus payments and claims that they are not getting fair shares of promotion. They allege, too, that local union officials would not allow them to elect stewards.
Three hundred of the strikers arrived for the demonstration at the union's London offices yesterday in coaches from Leicester.

Injunction given on TV rights in boxing match

By Neil Algeo
Boxing Correspondent
A High Court injunction was granted in chambers in London yesterday preventing any further announcements about the £500,000 British and European closed-circuit television rights of the world heavyweight boxing championship match between George Foreman, the champion, and Muhammad Ali in Kinshasa, Zaïre, on September 25.

Chancellor to blame for price rises—Mr Whitelaw

Mr William Whitelaw last night accused the Government of "trying to lull us into a false sense of security about our economic difficulties".
The opposition spokesman on employment said in his Peurth and Border constituency that the Government hoped people would forget Mr Healey's Budget, but last week's announcement of an enormous rise in the monthly cost-of-living index should have destroyed that illusion.

"Voters do not come running back in repentance. They have to be given leadership." There was four months in which to convince voters who voted to Conservative in the election and determination to save Britain from the slide into socialism. Mr Enoch Powell said yesterday that inflation was planned by government and encouraged by businessmen because of the "huge vested interest" in it.

Ford shop steward fined £50 for Co-op theft

Sidney Harraway, the trade unionist, was fined £50, with £50 costs, after being convicted at Woodford Crown Court yesterday of shoplifting. Mr Harraway, a shop steward at the Dagenham works of the Ford Motor Company, had denied stealing goods valued at £3.06 from the Co-op supermarket on the last Christmas Eve.

Archaeology report Stonehenge: 'A geometrical monument'

Stonehenge is not only an astronomical observatory, but also a monument constructed geometrically, using giant ellipses, spirals and circles laid out on the ground, according to Professor Alexander Thom and his colleagues, who have recently made a survey of the site.
Stonehenge consists of the well known sarsen circle, with its companion lintel, enclosing the great horseshoe of sarsen trilithons and the incomplete rings of bluestones, and itself enclosed within three rings of holes dug into the chalk.

oriented to a half-risen solstitial sun over the period 1650-450 BC, from a small mound known as Peter's Moon, 1.7 miles to the north-east and less than a foot high, has the same azimuth as the heel stone and the centre of the heel stone circle and may therefore have been used as a foresight during the first period of Stonehenge.
Several postholes excavated earlier this century between the heel stone and the Aubrey holes, and located between the terminals of the ditch at the entrance to the Avenue, are suggested as an extrapolation sector for use in observing the extreme positions of the moon. It had earlier been noted that the "station rectangle" on the Aubrey circle indicated the extreme north setting position of the moon, and such extrapolation sectors have already been identified by Professor Thom in Callanish and Brú na Boinne, although not as early as 2800 BC.

WEST EUROPE

President Giscard and Herr Schmidt tackle EEC issues together

From Richard Wigg
Paris, May 31
M Valéry Giscard d'Estaing began his first conversations with a European Community partner since taking office as president of France when he welcomed Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, at the Elysée this evening.
Herr Schmidt arrived late from Bonn and the two men's talks alone began immediately. Devoted chiefly to finding ways to overcome the Community's most pressing economic problems, they went on through a dinner tonight at which M Jean Sauvagnargues, France's new Foreign Minister, was brought in. The discussions, which may be continued tomorrow morning, will be kept within an extremely restricted group as the two men are joined only by one or two of their most senior officials.

French in tackling the widening gap between the two countries' economic performances—West Germany with exports expanding 32 per cent in the first four months of this year and building up reserves now four times those of its chief European trading partner, France, forecasting a mounting balance of payments deficit for the end of the year.
M Paul Laubard, a leading businessman, who is president of the Paris chamber of industry and commerce, has already recommended openly that West Germany should find ways to favour French exports, while avoiding restraining domestic demand so as to help right France's worsening trading position.

The visit's timing fits well for France. Domestically it comes before President Giscard d'Estaing announces on June 12 measures to combat rising inflation; and on Europe, before next month's series of EEC ministers' meetings, starting on Tuesday with Britain explaining the renegotiation position. The talks are also expected to tackle trading problems like the Italian and Danish import restriction measures.
The French have been hearing that Herr Schmidt had proposals to make on how West Germany might assist the

French in tackling the widening gap between the two countries' economic performances—West Germany with exports expanding 32 per cent in the first four months of this year and building up reserves now four times those of its chief European trading partner, France, forecasting a mounting balance of payments deficit for the end of the year.
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OVERSEAS

Arms ban could hit French exports

From Richard Wigg
Paris, May 31
President Giscard d'Estaing's promise to ban all arms sales that would contradict France's "liberal image" would appear to be clear enough.
However, the French arms industry has made a substantial contribution to exports during the past two or three years. If the promise were to be widely implemented it would mean the loss of export markets needed more than ever now in order to pay for dearer imports of fuel and raw materials and it might threaten jobs.

Ottawa angrily hits back at Delhi's surprise nuclear test

From Our Correspondent
Ottawa, May 31
Relations between Canada and India, once marked by an exceptional warmth, have dipped to their lowest point as the result of India's entry into the international nuclear club.
Probably in no world capital, with the possible exception of Islamabad, was the reaction to the test harder than in Ottawa. The reason is a strong suspicion here—even an assumption—that India used nuclear know-how acquired from Canada to fashion the device that was exploded in the Rajasthan desert on May 18.

"We don't know their intention at all," he told reporters. "We are very disappointed that India has spent all this money on brains in order to explode a bomb when their people are starving."
In retaliation, parts of the Indian press have been lambasting Ottawa's attitude. One Indian news agency commented that the old relationship between the two countries had in reality never been smooth and alleged that Canada had sought "hard" terms in its nuclear dealings with India.

None of the French newspapers today went far to highlight the President's words on arms in yesterday's message to Parliament.
Le Monde observes cautiously tonight that if the President's remarks are "not to remain words in the air then the French people more than good intentions in difficult times and a real change of psychological attitudes".
Now that Portugal has begun negotiations with the Africans over its colonies, one regular subject of criticism by left-wing opponents of arms sales could be eliminated. But if the decolonization process should go awry and a Congo-style situation developed, French policy might well run into interpretative difficulties.

Further, it has refused to reimburse a \$C5m (about £4m) loan to the Indian Atomic Energy Commission, largely related to the extensive programme of nuclear energy in India, and the Government is reviewing the whole spectrum of Canadian-Indian industrial relations.
The review also means to India under the Colombo Plan, expected to reach a value of \$C57m in the present fiscal year. Just as extraordinary as these unprecedented measures, however, is the Indian blast provoked from both Mr Trudeau, the Prime Minister, and Mr Mitchell Sharp, the External Affairs Minister.

The reason may have something to do with a certain long-ago 1971 to set India Mrs Gandhi an undertaking that India would not develop a nuclear device. He says warning that Canada would reassess its programme of nuclear help if India did build one.
A fair deduction is that Canada even then had received intimations of which way India was likely to proceed, and the question has therefore arisen here why Ottawa did not move to thwart Delhi's nuclear ambitions by cutting off the flow of technology earlier.



M Sauvagnargues (left), the French Foreign Minister, talking to Herr Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, at Orly airport.

General Spinoza again warns the extremists

Lisbon, May 31.—President Spinoza tonight warned Portugal against sliding into chaos and disorder which could lead to right-wing dictatorship.
The President, who is head of the military junta, said that freedom must not mean a weakening of law and order. He was speaking at the swearing-in of the 21-man Council of State.

Spanish air threat to Gibraltar

From Our Own Correspondent
Madrid, May 31
As the first round of a new series of Anglo-Spanish talks on Gibraltar ended in Madrid today, General Franco and his Cabinet discussed plans to build a big commercial airport at Castellar de la Frontera, only nine miles from the Rock. The new airport would create serious air traffic control problems for the Gibraltar air strip, which is already awkwardly situated at the neck of the peninsula.

Gaullist 'eminence grise' loses his African post

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, May 31
M Jacques Foccart, who was often regarded during the Gaullist era as the 'eminence grise' of Franco's African policy, has been relieved of his post as Secretary-General for African and Malagasy Affairs by President Giscard d'Estaing's order, it was announced last night.
It hardly needed M Pierre Abelin, the new Minister of Co-operation, to declare today that France's policy towards the French-speaking African nations is to be "rethought" to underline that M Foccart's departure represents another break with Gaullism. His secretary will be taken over by the new Director.

Madrid court's threat to police immunity

From Our Correspondent
Madrid, May 31
The decision of a military court in Madrid today suggests that the police and the armed forces are no longer immune from investigations in cases involving the deaths of civilians.
A court martial acquitted a Madrid lawyer, Señor Jaime Miralles, on a charge of insulting the armed forces because he had challenged an official report on a worker who was shot dead by the police.

Italian police discover plot to blow up President

From Our Correspondent
Rome, May 31
Police today raided the homes of right-wing extremists in Rome and Milan after reports that two rightists, flushed out of a sewer camp in a gun battle yesterday, were plotting to blow up the presidential tribune during next Sunday's military parade in Rome.
Police and Carabinieri have neither confirmed nor denied reports in several newspapers that two of the men claimed that an unnamed person had offered them 400 million (about £260,000) to make it attack.

100 children hurt in motorway crash

Stuttgart, May 31.—Two people in a private car were killed and 100 children were injured today when the car and two school buses were in collision on the Stuttgart to Karlsruhe motorway. —Agence France-Press.

Fungicides blamed for Italian poisonings

Bergamo, Northern Italy, May 31.—Fungicides used by a farming family in the San Martino valley near here are believed to have contaminated their food, killing three people 10 under 20 days.—Agence France-Press.

Poster attacks on Chinese official with Heath group

From David Bonavia
Kunming, China, May 31
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Large posters in Kunming criticized Mr Chen Kang, vice-chairman of the provincial revolutionary committee. The posters were clearly visible along the route which the cars carrying the British party and Mr Chen himself took through the city.

Defeated Australian leader blames 'donkey vote'

From Our Correspondent
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OVERSEAS

Greeks move warily as Turkish Navy escorts survey ships

From Our Correspondent Athens, May 31. Greek officials confirmed today that a Turkish naval survey vessel had been sighted in the international waters of the Aegean Sea, west of Lesbos. The ship was under surveillance, they said. The Turkish move, designed to support Turkish claims over the eastern half of the Aegean continental shelf, caused a crisis yesterday. Allied sources said that a Turkish naval exercise, of which notice had been given to Nato, was taking place in the northern Aegean, not far from the point where the survey ship was working. Nato has tried to prevent a Greek-Turkish confrontation. A corps commanders' meeting at the Izmir headquarters for allied land and air forces in south-east Europe, was held yesterday and today, and brought together Greek and Turkish generals. The American general commanding the headquarters said today they had confirmed their determination to defend the area jointly. In another move to keep the peace, the Greek Foreign Ministry today delivered to the Turkish Ambassador, Mr Kamuran Gurun, the list of problems the Greeks wish to bring before the Ottawa meeting on June 20 of the Greek and Turkish Foreign Ministers. A Turkish list incorporating the Aegean shelf issue, was submitted to Athens two weeks ago. To Western diplomatic circles here the impression is that while Turkey is pushing hard for Greece to agree to early discussions on the continental shelf, the Greeks are trying to

Russia and America sponsor UN peace force

Continued from page 1 Arabs and Israelis. The Russians this time included the Israelis. In his address, General Sillasvuo described the efforts of Dr Kissinger, the American Secretary of State as "an exceptional feat of diplomacy unparalleled in the annals of international relations." The foundation had been laid, he said, on which a reliable structure of peace could be built and strengthened. Even if the agreement were not a peace treaty, it represented a milestone on the way to achieving peace. Under the agreement, the meetings here are expected to continue for about five days, with disengagement starting within 24 hours of the military working group finishing its task. Disengagement will be completed in not more than 20 days thereafter. Both the United States and the Soviet Union will continue to be represented at military working group meetings—to emphasize the fact, apparently, that the group was created by the Geneva conference on peace in the Middle East, of which the two superpowers are co-sponsors. The agreement defines itself as not a peace agreement but a step towards a just and durable settlement on the basis of Security Council resolution 338 of October 22. This resolution refers in turn to immediate implementation after a ceasefire of the council's resolution 242 of November 22, 1967, which says that withdrawal of Israeli armed forces from territories occupied in the six-day war of that year is a basic principle for peace in the middle east. Peter Strafford, writes from New York: The Soviet Union has recommended to the United States in recommending approval of the setting up of a special United Nations force to supervise the disengagement of the Syrian and Israeli forces. The announcement last night came at the end of a day in which the Soviet Union had stood in the way of American pressure for a quick decision on the force by the Security Council. Our Tel Aviv correspondent writes: Defence force headquarters here announced that all was quiet on the northern front at 1.15 pm, some 15 minutes after Israel and Syria signed the agreement. An unofficial report said the last shell exploded at 1.17 pm. The ceasefire was pre-



Dr Kissinger with President Nixon at the White House yesterday after the Secretary of State had reported on his successful Middle East peace mission.

ceded this morning by some of the most massive shelling in the 30 days since the shooting became a daily occurrence. The Israel pullback is to be completed in 25 days and they have already started work on the new line. An informed source said it will include an anti-tank ditch along the entire front, minefields and fences. The Israelis are expected, in particular, to strengthen the line facing Quneitra, the town which is to return to Syrian civilian rule. In contrast to the situation on the Egyptian front where the United Nations controlled buffer zone is an uninhabited strip, the area of disengagement on the Syrian front is to be populated and the city of Quneitra and a chain of villages could become Arab terrorist bases. The Syrians, unlike the Egyptians, refused to undertake to curb "paramilitary" activities from their territory. Damascus: The guns fell silent on the Golan Heights front today half an hour after the disengagement agreement was signed in Geneva, a Syrian military communique reported. The communique did not explain the half-hour delay, but presumably it took that much time to get orders to the commanders on the front.—UPI. Edmund Stevens writes from Moscow: The warm message from Mr Brezhnev, the Soviet party leader, to President Assad, Syria, endorsing the agreement was welcomed here with satisfaction and relief by virtually all concerned. Because Mr Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, appeared in Damascus just as Dr Kissinger's arduous efforts to achieve agreement seemed about to bear fruit, it was feared by some observers, especially Soviet Jews, that Mr Gromyko might put a spoke in the wheel, instead of jumping on the bandwagon for the triumphal finish. His previous visits to Syria had been followed by a hardening of the Syrian line. Mr Brezhnev's message confirmed that the Russians still demand an eventual complete withdrawal, but that they seem prepared to accept an immediate military disengagement rather than all or nothing. Possibly they made the shift because they thought further intransigence might have left them odd man out and eroded further their influence with the Arabs. Also, assent to disengagement was the only way to regain the Geneva peace conference, where the Soviet Union, as co-chairman with the United States, would play an equal role. The shift to a strict disengagement coincided with conciliatory sounds and gestures towards President Sadat, of Egypt, timed to the third anniversary of the Soviet-Egyptian friendship treaty. The absence of any companion message from the Soviet leadership to Dr Kissinger, recognizing his decisive role in achieving the disengagement, caused no surprise here. The Soviet press had never so much as mentioned his name in print or reported the course of the negotiations during the past six weeks of his gruelling shuttle diplomacy.

London denial of reports that Simonstown pact is about to be abrogated

By A. M. Rendel Diplomatic Correspondent Reports that the South African Government has protested strongly at the British decision to withhold delivery of a Westland Wasp helicopter were officially denied at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office yesterday. However, Dr Carel de Weert, the South African Ambassador, called on Thursday at his own request on Sir Thomas Brimelow, the Permanent Under Secretary, and it may be assumed that the order for Wasp helicopters (five of which have already been delivered) was one of the questions discussed. Sir Thomas attended a reception at the South African Embassy in the evening. There has never been any obligation under the Simonstown agreement with South Africa to supply weapons for internal security. The British Government can fairly argue that some of the Wasp helicopters ordered by South Africa are required for just that. Reports from South Africa that the British Government are considering termination of the Simonstown agreement were also officially denied yesterday. Policy towards southern Africa remains under review, but the defence review including the possible paring down of Britain's overseas defence commitments cannot be concluded for some months, probably not until after the next election. The Nato powers have recently authorized a study of naval defence requirements in the area of the South Atlantic and Indian Ocean, beyond the present Nato treaty area, which includes by the Tropic of Capricorn. It has been much emphasized that this study does not involve any exchange of commitments or contacts with South Africa, but it would seem unlikely that the British Government would seek to end Western naval facilities at Simonstown at a time when defence requirements could well increase with an enlargement of a Soviet naval presence in the area. Our Cape Town Correspondent writes: The 175-year-old British base at Simonstown, the only naval base at Simonstown is about to be broken, according to reports published here today. Mr Botha also said recently at a political rally at South Africa had more than one source for obtaining weapons and had received offers from a number of countries. London reports that Mr Vorster, the Prime Minister, will travel abroad soon in search of arms not taken seriously here. Such missions are invariably undertaken by Mr Botha or by one of the South African service chiefs. He referred inquirers to a statement some weeks ago in which he said that South Africa had the ability to produce more and more of its own arms and ammunition. Mr Botha also said recently at a political rally at South Africa had more than one source for obtaining weapons and had received offers from a number of countries. London reports that Mr Vorster, the Prime Minister, will travel abroad soon in search of arms not taken seriously here. Such missions are invariably undertaken by Mr Botha or by one of the South African service chiefs.

Eritrean raid 'attempt to help sick hostages'

Addis Ababa, May 31.—Rebel forces who stormed an American hospital in Eritrea, northern Ethiopia, last Monday were trying to seize a doctor to treat foreign hostages they are holding, diplomatic sources said here today. The rebels, said to belong to the outlawed Eritrean Liberation Front (ELF), shot dead a Dutch nurse and kidnapped her American colleague during the raid on a hospital at Ginda. Earlier, the rebel group had captured the three-man crew of a helicopter belonging to the American Tenneco oil prospecting company, the sources said. Nine weeks ago another Tenneco helicopter was captured and its crew are still captive. The helicopter seized this week was carrying a Canadian, a representative and two local guides to a rendezvous with the ELF group holding five Americans and Canadians from the first helicopter. Tenneco has been negotiating with the ELF for several weeks for the release of its employees. The diplomatic sources said that two of the original five captives were a now seriously ill, and the third was placed over his head and be, was manacled to the floor of the

Himalayan border passes opened

Katmandu, May 31.—Nepal and China have agreed to open two more Himalayan border passes in central and western Nepal for overland trade between Nepal and Tibet. Intersol, Ontario, May 31.—Sixty people were hurt when a passenger train travelling from Toronto to Windsor, Ontario, hit a derailed goods wagon yesterday.

African leader banned again for five years

From Our Correspondent Cape Town, May 31. Mr Robert Sobukwe, head of South Africa's illegal Pan-African Congress, has been banned again for five years. He led the anti-pass campaign which culminated in the Sharpeville emergency, and was imprisoned on Robben Island in 1960 for loitering. His imprisonment was extended by executive order after he had completed his sentence. In 1969 he was freed from Robben Island and restricted to Kimberley under a banning order which has just expired. The new banning order, described today by Chief Catoiba Buthe, chief executive of the Kwazulu Bantustan tribal territory, as the "height of cruelty", places Mr Sobukwe under house arrest at night and prohibits him from attending gatherings.

Brazilian lawyers protest against Army torture

Rio de Janeiro, May 31.—The Brazilian Legal Federation has protested to President Geisel over the alleged torture of a Sao Paulo lawyer for 27 days by the armed forces. In a nine-page document the federation gave details of methods of torture, said to have been practised on Senator Wellington Rocha Cantal, who was detained by soldiers in civilian clothes on April 3. Senator Cantal, who was freed on April 30, gave evidence before the federation's plenary assembly in Rio de Janeiro last Tuesday. The federation has also sent a petition to President Geisel requesting protection for Senator Cantal, his wife and three children. He said the military had threatened to kill the family if he talked about his experiences. Senator Cantal told the federation that he was dragged into a car by two men on a road in Sao Paulo, hood was placed over his head and he was manacled to the floor of the car. He also said he was beaten all the way to Army barracks. He told the assembly that after he had denied having links with the banned Communist Party he was stripped, wires were connected to his head and electric shocks from a battery tumbled him to the floor. He claimed that he was forced to stand against a wall in a small cell for hours on end, and when he lost consciousness he was hung up by his hands. Senator Cantal, partner in a flourishing law firm in San Paulo, told the lawyers that he lost all sense of time as his interrogators dragged him from one room to the next, at times placing a hood over his head and at times applying shock treatment to parts of his body. Senator Cantal was arrested in 1968 because of his alleged links with the Communist Party. A military court absolved him unanimously, but the armed forces still took the case to the Supreme Military Tribunal which also declared him innocent.—Reuter.

Oslo Parliament rejects attack on Dr Kissinger

Oslo, May 31.—The Norwegian Parliament today overwhelmingly rejected by 122 votes to 14 a proposal by Communists and Socialists that it condemn last year's award of the Nobel Peace Prize to Dr Kissinger, the United States Secretary of State. Members of the Socialist League opened their attack on the award at the same time as Syria and Israel were about to sign an agreement on the disengagement of forces on the Golan Heights. The Nobel Committee gave the prize jointly to Dr Kissinger and Mr Le Duc Tho of North Vietnam for their efforts in securing the Vietnam peace agreement. Today's leftwing proposal demanded that all five members of the committee—elected by Parliament—should be dropped and new members chosen from outside Parliament.—Reuter.

Peronists in internal power struggle

From Stuart Sirling Buenos Aires, May 31. In the eight months that President Peron has been in office, he has shown his critics and his ideological divided followers that he is still the only leader in Argentina capable of bringing economic and political stability within a democratic system of government. However, his Instaurist Movement has, since his return from exile, been driven by a power struggle between its leftwing and rightwing elements. They see the road to the succession—when the 78-year-old President has left the political scene—as wide open to whichever faction is able to consolidate itself sufficiently in power. As a result of the polemics within Peronism, the President is leaning more definitely towards the right-wing, orthodox members of his party and becoming gradually alienated from the revolutionary left. The President, in a speech to his supporters on May Day, attacked leftists in his movement, branding them as "stupid" and "infiltrators". His remarks were directed at the Montoneros Party, which although still forming part of the Peronist movement, is now at the opposite ideological pole to the middle-class road policies of the Government. The Montoneros were originally founded as a guerrilla organization and waged an armed struggle against the previous regime of General Lanusse at a time when President Peron was still banned by the military. A further indication of the Government's attitude towards the Peronist left was demonstrated by its failure last

February to intervene on behalf of the governor of the province of Córdoba and his leftist Cabinet, ousted by police and right-wing unionists. The armed coup in Córdoba opened the way for right-wing Peronists to gain control of important posts once held by left-wing Peronists, appointed by former President Campora, and the unions and the provincial Government. The outcome of the Córdoba revolt and the subsequent resignation of the governor, Dr Ricardo Obregon, was seen by political observers as fitting in a developing pattern of bringing leftist provincial officials in line with the policies of the Government in Buenos Aires. However, the Government has not yet been able to end the wave of violence, kidnappings and political murders attributed to Peronist extremists. One such organization, the Marxist ERP (People's Revolutionary Army), has amassed \$24m (about £10m) in ransom money in the past year, and are credited with most of the 190 kidnappings in 1973. A high percentage of those abducted were foreign and local businessmen. In spite of sporadic activity by extremists, President Peron's Government has the overwhelming support of the ruling party and the country at large, because its policies are considered to be the only way for Argentina to keep democracy and not revert to the stagnation of military rule. The Senator Peron governed Argentina from 1916 to 1955 with the support of the trade unions and workers—the desamiasados (shirtless ones)—he brought Argentina into an era

ADVERTISEMENT INSTEAD OF... A large advertisement featuring a map of the Trieste region and surrounding areas. The map shows the coastline of the Adriatic Sea, with Trieste and Udine marked. It details the boundaries of Zone A and Zone B, and the frontier of Yugoslavia in Istria. The text discusses the political and territorial issues surrounding Trieste, including the 1947 peace treaty and the 1954 London Memorandum. It mentions the Yugoslav border, the Italian peninsula, and the impact of the Yugoslav-Slovenian border on the region. The advertisement is signed by the Istrian Refugees Association.

OVERSEAS

Lisbon offers to help inquiry into Mozambique killings

From Our Correspondent Rome, May 31. The new Portuguese Government today indicated that it was prepared to cooperate with the United Nations inquiry into reported massacres in Mozambique.

Further comment but said he hoped that the commission would be allowed to go to Mozambique. At present the commission is planning to visit Dar es Salaam and Lusaka to hear representatives of Frelimo, the Mozambique Liberation Movement, and eyewitnesses and survivors that they see fit.

Africans to decide on Rhodesia settlement

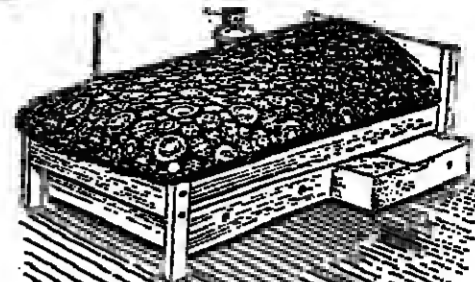
From Our Correspondent Salisbury, May 31. The protracted search for a Rhodesian settlement may well take a decisive turn on Sunday when the leaders of the African National Council confer in Salisbury.

Postal and weekend shopping

NICHOLLS & CLARKE LIMITED

Advertisement for Nicholls & Clarke Limited featuring kitchen units, ironmongery, and furniture. Includes text: 'VAST STOCKS - COME AND CHOOSE', 'OPEN TODAY SATURDAY 8 a.m.-12 noon', and '3-10 SHDREDITCH HIGH ST. LONDON E1. Tel. 247 5432'.

BED LAM



Sturdy pine bed with optional drawers, singles from £60 including mattress. Doubles from £81 including mattress. Drawers from £11.50 each. Plus 16 other sparkling designs in bed engineering from £60 including mattresses.

Table with columns for 'DOWNE DAVEN PRICES' and 'MATTRESSES'. It lists various bed sizes and prices for different mattress types.

Choice of blue, brown or striped ticking on interior sprung mattresses. 'made to size', and delivery service available. Access and Barclay Card taken. VAT included. 811 FULHAM ROAD/MIMOSA STREET LONDON SW6. 01-731 2595

Guinea-Bissau talks are adjourned for week

The London peace talks between Portugal and the Guinea-Bissau nationalists, the African Party for the Independence of Guinea-Bissau and the Cape Verde Islands (PAIGC), have been adjourned for a week without agreement on a ceasefire.

Foreign Minister, and Dr Antonio de Almeida Santos, the Minister for Interterritorial Co-ordination, left by air for Paris. It was expected to hold talks with President Senghor of Senegal before flying on to Lisbon today.

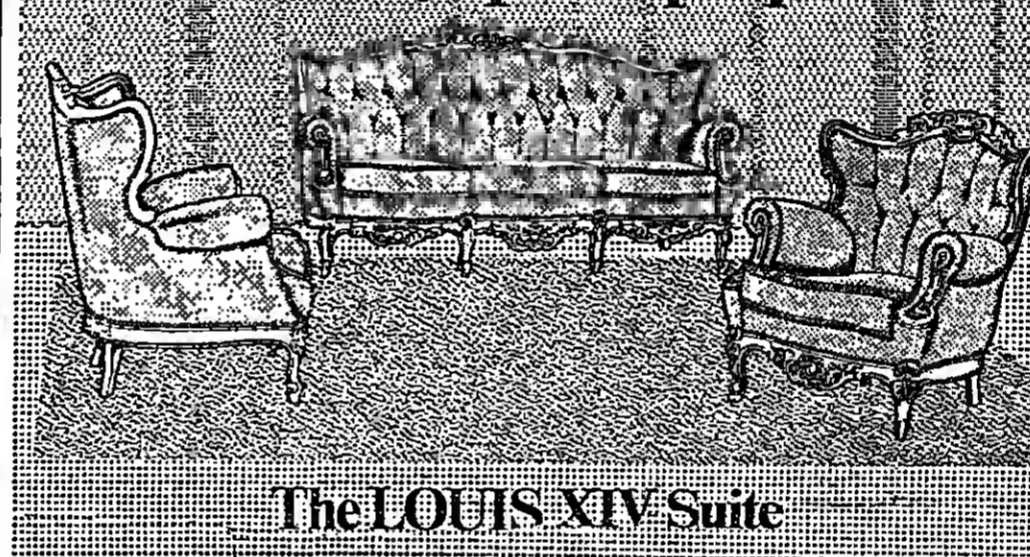
Convoy of 79 lorries attacked in Vietnam

From Our Correspondent Saigon, May 31. A convoy of 79 lorries was ambushed on the strategic east-west Highway 19 in the Central Highlands yesterday. One Government soldier was killed and four lorries were damaged.

Malaysia and China are friends again

Peking, May 31.—Mr Chou En-lai, the Chinese Prime Minister, and Tun Abdul Razak, Prime Minister of Malaysia, tonight signed an agreement establishing full diplomatic relations, formally ending a generation of mutual suspicion and hostility.

For very special people...



The LOUIS XIV Suite

This superb three piece suite is for those who demand that extra elegance and at a price that is truly remarkable. Made by craftsmen to the highest standards, the polished walnut carved frame complements the rich moirai upholstery which is available in many attractive designs and colours. £550. *Credit facilities available. *Full after sales service.

Advertisement for Wharfside Furniture Supplies Ltd. Text: 'ALSO THE LARGEST SELECTION OF TOP QUALITY MODERN DANISH FURNITURE IN ENGLAND AT UNEATABLE DIRECT-SELLING PRICES.' Includes address: '66 Buttesland Street, London N1. Tel. 01-253 3208'.

Advertisement for Pioneer Galleries Ltd. Text: 'WE EXTEND AN INVITATION TO PEOPLE OF GOOD TASTE TO SAVE £££'. Features images of various furniture pieces like tables, chairs, and sofas.

886 3024 Pioneer Galleries Ltd. London's Top Reproduction Furniture Centre, 422 Green Lanes, Palmers Green, N.13. Daily 2 pm-6 pm. Sat. 10 am-2 pm. Sun. 10 am-2 pm. Cl. Thurs.

Advertisement for 'A THIRD CHAIR OF ENGLISH LITERATURE'. Text: 'to be established at the University of Zurich with effect from 15 April 1975 or 15 October 1975. Preference will be given to candidates working in the period since 1700.'

Public Notices section containing several notices, including one from 'I. DEREK FRANK SHANESHAFT' regarding a lost document.

Business Notices section with various advertisements for services like 'NEW RECORD Production Company', 'ESTABLISHED Dutch Transport Company', and 'FINANCIAL & INVESTMENT'.

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Advertisement for Rush Matting and Zip Link Beds. Text: 'Rush matting creates warm and friendly atmosphere and wears well. We are the country's leading rush matting specialists and make any size to the nearest square foot.' Includes 'FREE Brochure' offer.

Advertisement for 'INVEST IN A GENUINE SILVER Victorian Crown'. Text: 'Full Crown 24 1/2 50 Complete + 25p P & P'.

Advertisement for 'LYN-PLAN Covers'. Text: 'the perfect fit for PARKER-KNOLL and CANTIQUE chairs & sofas. NOW AVAILABLE FOR THE WELL-KNOWN ERROL range!'.

Advertisement for 'UNDERFREIGHTS'. Text: 'UNDERFREIGHTS LTD. 227'.

Advertisement for 'BUYERS & SELLERS'. Text: 'SUPER REDUCTIONS ON FRIDGES & FREEZERS. Fridges from £23.87. Freezers from £24. (Example: Electrolux 7.6 cu. ft. at £42.95)'.

Advertisement for 'COLORHARM ROLLERBLINDS'. Text: 'whypay - 50/more'.

Advertisement for 'HAND CARVED PINE MANTELS'. Text: 'ADAM MANTELS. HART OF KNIGHTSBRIDGE'.

Advertisement for 'BISHOPSGATE TYPEWRITER'. Text: '45% OFF. TYPEWRITERS-CALCULATORS-ADDERS. FREE DEMONSTRATION HOME OR OFFICE'.

Advertisement for 'BEAVER LOFT CONVERSION Co.'. Text: 'A BETTER OUTLOOK IN YOUR HOME THAT'S WORTH LOOKING INTO'.

Advertisement for 'SENSATIONAL SUPER EFFICIENT MAGNETIC WINDOW CLEANER'. Text: 'THE BEST THING FOR WINDOWS SINCE GLASS!'.

Advertisement for 'The Little Carpet Services'. Text: 'At Your Service'.

The fashion for Fauntleroy

by Ann Thwaite

Little Lord Fauntleroy was first published as a book in October, 1886, after serialization in *St Nicholas Magazine*. "Mrs Burnett's juvenile starts with a tremendous rush," her publisher Charles Scribner reported. They had to reprint before publication, although the first edition was 10,000. The reviews were ecstatic, and far more so than the book itself. Louisa M. Alcott, for instance, rejoiced that America's best and brightest was consecrating her talents to the useful and beautiful work of writing for children, but emphasized that "grown people" as much as children would enjoy the book.

The story of the reformation of an arrogant aristocrat by his republican grandson has obvious appeal. The idea had come to Frances when her son Vivian, aged eight, had asked: "When a person is a duke, what makes him one?" He seemed to imagine a dukedom must be a reward "for superhuman sweetness of character and brilliant intellectual capacity". She started imagining what impression an English aristocrat would make on a small American boy, brought up to believe in equality. The appeal of the story is marvelously double-edged. The reader can have it both ways. He can enjoy descriptions of aristocratic luxury while sharing Cedric's belief that Mr Hobbs, the grocer, is every bit as important as an earl.

All over America, men, women and children followed Cedric's adventures. One social historian has commented: "It does not do to say merely that *Little Lord Fauntleroy* was a great success. It caused a public delirium of joy." A year after publication, 43,000 copies were in print. Two years later, sales soared higher and higher—under the influence of Frances's own triumphant dramatization of the book, and the lawsuit she brought to drive from the stage a rival *Fauntleroy*. It became one of the biggest sellers of all time, selling over a million copies in English alone, and being translated into more than a dozen languages. It made Frances at least a hundred thousand dollars in her lifetime. She had produced a book which fitted perfectly the taste of the time.

Frances had started off as an extreme realist by the standards of the day; now she became identified as a romantic. It was the age of escapism. In England it was the heyday of Andrew Lang. His influence as a critic was enormous. There was a craving for escape from life and no aesthetic encouragement to face it. Lang preferred Rider Haggard and Anthony Hope to Hardy and Henry James, Stevenson to Dostoevsky. And thousands, hundreds of thousands of people on both sides of the Atlantic agreed with him.

It was in 1886 that Lemuel Bangs, Scribner's agent in England, attempting to introduce a little realism into the list, was told by Charles Scribner to "let up on the nasty books". A list of the best selling novels in these years is very revealing: 1884: *Heidi*; *Treasure Island*. 1885: *A Child's Garden of Verses*; *Huckleberry Finn*. 1886: *Little Lord Fauntleroy*; *King Solomon's Mines*; *War and Peace*.

Of these titles, all but one would now be considered children's books. At that time there was no rigid demarcation line between adult and children's literature. Publishers did not have special children's departments. There were no children's libraries. Reviews of children's

books were not confined to separate supplements; they frequently contained phrases such as, "It will delight all children between the ages of six and sixty" or "Grown-up readers will be as much delighted as the younger ones". Swinburne, writing on Mrs Molesworth in the *Nineteenth Century* in 1893, was to say: "Our own age is fortunate... Any chapter of *The Cuckoo Clock* or the enchanting *Adventures of Herr Baby* is worth a shoal of the very best novels dealing with characters and fortunes of mere adults." Lewis Carroll had had a good deal to do with this. Everyone read *Alice*. Even Henry James, though depressed by the "beastly bloodiness" of Rider Haggard, admired *Treasure Island* enormously. His copy of *Kidnapped* is heavily annotated. The taste of the general public accorded neatly on the whole with what was considered suitable for children; when *Huckleberry Finn* was serialized in the *Century*, the editor deleted, with the author's agreement, all references to nakedness, blasphemy, smells and dead cats.

Frances spent the winter of 1887-88 in Florence. So did Gladstone. Her friend Henry James had recently called him "a dreary incubus", mouthing platitudes. Frances found the Prime Minister's words delightful. Would she have found them quite so delightful if they had been spoken by the grocer in Washington? In theory Frances was a passionate egalitarian. It had been her great strength, her concern for the people, the poor. And certainly she continued to be always interested in ordinary people; but she was becoming more and more often seduced by labels and titles. To Henry James, Wilde might be famous and Gladstone, dreary; to Frances their glamour and fame made them both inevitably delightful.

The Prime Minister had apparently asked his friend Janet Ross if she knew Mrs Burnett; he wanted to meet her. Accordingly, just as James had been the winter before, Frances was invited to the villa at Castagnolo. She described the meeting in a letter: "I find Prime Ministers agree with me. He is a fascinating old man, and said the most lovely things. *Fauntleroy* has charmed him—he told me he believed the book would have great effect in bringing about added good feeling between the two nations and making them understand each other. He and Mrs Gladstone and his son and two daughters and the Duchess of Sermoneta went out to the villa—which is seven or eight miles from Florence—in the train, which, finding itself overweighted with the Irish Question and so much Statesmanship, promptly broke down about two miles away from the house, landing the party in the road—at least, placing them there; I am not fond of trains, and had driven out in a victoria with two horses; and so my carriage went to pick them up—all of them it could carry—the next came in Mrs Ross' donkey cart. Afterwards I took Mr and Mrs Gladstone home, and it was a lovely drive... Mrs Gladstone is coming to see me and she asked me to let them know when I arrive in London. But there is no record of any further meeting. Frances returned to London much earlier than she had expected, and in circumstances which made it difficult to follow up even an acquaintance with the Prime Minister.

She had had an obsequious, flattering letter from a man signing himself E. V. Seeborn, who had made a play from *Little Lord Fauntleroy*. "I sincerely trust," he wrote, "that I have



Frances Hodgson Burnett in "Men and Women of the Day", 1888

written nothing that could cast a slur on one of the most beautiful stories it has ever been my pleasure to read." His compliments cut no ice with Frances. It had been bad enough when unauthorized plays had been made from *That Lass O'Leerie's* and *Edith's Burglar*, but *Little Lord Fauntleroy*, her most valuable property, had to be fought for. The difficulty was that Seeborn was technically acting perfectly legally as the law stood at that time.

He went to Florence to try to persuade her to let him go ahead, but she had just left. He followed her and they met briefly on the railway station at Turin. It was their only meeting. Frances refused to accept any of his suggestions for collaboration and profit sharing. He hurried back to launch his play before Frances had a chance to produce a rival version.

Frances travelled to England with her companion Miss Chielini and a generous supply of

manuscript paper, pencils and ink, and started her dramatization on the train. A good proportion of it was finished when she arrived in London. She had decided not only to see for herself what Seeborn had written but to follow it up as rapidly as possible with *The Real Little Lord Fauntleroy*.

Seeborn's play was produced



Above: Buster Keaton, aged ten, on tour in New England as *Fauntleroy*

Frances Hodgson Burnett died 50 years ago, just before her 75th birthday. Her first stories were published in American women's magazines in the 1860s, soon after her arrival in Tennessee as a young emigrant from Manchester. During her long writing life she wrote hundreds of stories, more than 50 books, and a dozen plays. Her adult books are nearly all forgotten, but a number of her stories for children are still read and loved. When some children's writers were recently asked to choose the favourite book of their own childhood, again and again they named 'The Secret Garden'. 'The Secret Garden' was written towards the end of Mrs Burnett's life. It

was an earlier success, 'Little Lord Fauntleroy', which dominated and changed that life. Though she later wrote some extremely successful adult novels, such as 'The Shuttle' and 'T. Tembarom', she was no longer prepared to work with the self-control and subtlety of her early novels which had earned her comparison with George Eliot and Henry James. Fauntleroy made her rich and moved her across that faint frontier between literature and popular writing. His name is more famous than hers. When Robert Robinson asked some 'Brains of Britain' who created him, each was amazed at his own ignorance. Mrs Hemans? Charlotte M. Yonge? No one was sure. To most people, he is a name in a velvet suit with a lace collar.

way, out of the fuss over their sufferings. But we are willing to wax as indignant as their most enthusiastic champion could desire at the existing state of the law... Why do the novelists not all 'pull together', agitate fiercely and get the law altered? But Seeborn lost any sympathy there might have been for him by claiming that his play was only 'suggested' by Mrs Burnett's book, whereas it turned out that plot, characters and dialogue had all been lifted bodily.

The novelists did not "pull together" to get the law altered. Frances—with her solicitors and counsel—did it on her own. The plaintiffs decided in haste their case on an infringement of the Copyright Act of 1842, which forbade the making of copies of copyright material.

Seeborn had admitted the existence of four copies of the play, one of which had been deposited at the office of the Lord Chamberlain. A previous case had held that the mere representation on the stage of a play did not infringe the Copyright Act, but representation was one thing and copying another. Seeborn might have the right, under the law as it stood, to represent the novel on the stage; but he had no right to make copies of any parts of the book.

The case showed the law to be an ass. It being granted that it was not illegal to dramatize the story of another person, could it be contended that for this purpose the dramatizer could not write a single copy of his play without infringing copyright in the story—but must commit the whole to memory and impart it to the actors by word of mouth? Defendants counsel could not believe this was reasonable.

Mr Justice Stirling, in giving judgment, said a lot of the play had been extracted almost verbatim from the book—more than one quarter of the lines in the first act alone. "I think that what has been done and is intended to be done by the defendant constitutes an infringement of the plaintiff's legal rights no less than if the defendant had published his play. I grant a perpetual injunction to restrain the defendant from multiplying copies of his play. The plaintiff's further insist on an order directing the delivery up of the existing copies of the play... the costs of the action must be paid by the defendant."

Victory was total. It was not possible for a play to be licensed unless a copy was lodged with the Lord Chamberlain, and unauthorized dramatists would no longer be able to lodge copies with the Lord Chamberlain. Judgment was delivered on May 10 and Frances's own play was ready to open on May 14 at Terry's Theatre.

The next day's *Times* was enthusiastic. A few months later, just before her return to America, Frances was presented with a magnificent diamond bracelet inscribed "To Frances Hodgson Burnett, with the gratitude of British Authors". There was a diamond ring to match and a parchment scroll, illuminated with the names of those who had helped to make the gift.

"The under-mentioned Men and Women of Letters desire to express to Mrs Frances Hodgson Burnett their appreciation of the great service they believe she has rendered to British Authors by so strongly attracting public attention to the unsatisfactory condition of Copyright Law in England..." Eighty-four writers associated themselves with the address and the "accompanying Souvenir", including Ralph Abercrombie, Rider Haggard, F. Anstey, George Meredith, Arthur W. Pinero and Oscar Wilde.

On her arrival in the United States, she found the newspapers full not only of the success of her play, which had opened at the Boston Museum Theatre on September 10, but also of the death of E. V. Seeborn, which seemed to be a result of that success. The *Journal Spirit of the Times* reported the story like this:

Last week, when the news of the immense success of the author's version of *Little Lord Fauntleroy* at the Boston Museum reached New York, a young Englishman committed suicide... On the

London tailor's tab in the pocket of his overcoat was written the name of E. V. Seeborn. It will be remembered that Mr Seeborn dramatized *Little Lord Fauntleroy* in London, and was stopped by an injunction. He then left England for a tour round the world.

Frances was mobbed by reporters over the docks. "You want me to talk about Mr Seeborn," she said, "and I do not want to talk of him, now that he is supposed to be dead... From my brief acquaintance, I should not imagine that he was a man to commit suicide. It is much easier for me to believe that he was murdered even than that he should have destroyed himself. It was an unpleasant business; she did not let herself dwell on it."

She went straight to Boston and was delighted with Elsie Leslie's performance as Fauntleroy and with the production: the settings were more lavish than in London. Everyone was delighted with Oliver Wendell Holmes, nearly 80 and much honoured, wrote from his house on Beacon Street: "We had a most delightfully memorable evening, though we were all crying like babies half the time. The tears did not flow for real grief; with sometimes, come unbidden at the call of the writer of fiction who knows the human heart, and has access to its fountains."

The first night in New York was on December 3, 1888, and the success in London and Boston was repeated. It was now that the fashion for Little Lord Fauntleroy suits boomed. All over America, reluctant small boys were forced by their mothers into black velvet suits with lace collars and other outfits based on Cedric's clothes. In Davenport, Iowa, an eight-year-old burnt down his father's barn in protest at being dressed as Fauntleroy. In Worcester, Massachusetts, a boy traced his suit for some old patched clothes belonging to a gypsy. In New York it was reported that Stephan Crane gave money to two small boys and sent them to have their curls cut off; one mother went into hysterics, the other fainted. Irving Cobb, in his fictionalized memories of his childhood, published in 1924, gives an exaggeratedly graphic account in a chapter called *Little Short Fauntleroy*: "A mania was laying hold on the mothers of the nation. It was a mania for making over their growing sons after the likeness of a beaiffic image. *Little Lord Fauntleroy* infected thousands of the worthy matrons of America with a catching lunacy, which raged like a sedge fire and left enduring scars upon the sacred memories of its chief sufferers."

It was not only in America that the fashion caught on. Compton Mackenzie recalled "that confounded Little Lord Fauntleroy craze, which led to my being given as a party dress the Fauntleroy costume of black velvet and Vandyke collar... the other boys at the dancing class were all in white tops (sailor suits)". Sir Adrien Boult recorded that the fashion was raging when it was first conscious, about 1894 or '95. In Russia, Elizaveta Fern wished for curly hair like Cedric's and wore a boy's black velvet suit and a black velvet hat with a big feather. "People stared when I rode through the village. This rather embarrassed me, but I enjoyed it all the same."

It was not only Fauntleroy clothes which sold; there were Fauntleroy playing-cards, Fauntleroy writing-paper and toys and models of every sort, wooden, plaster, clockwork and chocolate. There was even a perfume named after him. In December, Scribner reported to Frances the extraordinary continuing demand for the book: "It surpasses all our expectations." In 1877, Frances had written: "There is no danger of my becoming vain." But now the danger was real.

The illustrations and text are taken from *Waiting for the Fair*, the life of Frances Hodgson Burnett by Ann Thwaite, published by Secker & Warburg this week at £3.50. An exhibition devoted to Frances Hodgson Burnett is now showing at Penshurst Place, near Tonbridge, Kent, the home of Lord De L'Isle, VC.

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Sun. 2 June	5.15 p.m.	ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL LONDON SYMPHONY Sir Charles Mackerras Conductor LSO CHORUS London Symphony Orchestra Ltd. Programme: Vaughan Williams: Symphony No. 6 in A (The Grand) 43-50, 51-59, 61-63, 64-65, 67-69	
Tue. 4 June	8 p.m.	ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL LONDON SYMPHONY Sir Charles Mackerras Conductor LSO CHORUS London Symphony Orchestra Ltd. Programme: Beethoven: Violin Concerto in D major Op. 36; Brahms: Violin Concerto in G major Op. 77	
Wed. 5 June	8 p.m.	ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL LONDON MOZART PLAYERS John Neschey Conductor Herts-Musart Society Programme: Mozart: Piano Concerto in D major K. 457; Haydn: Piano Concerto in D major Hob. XVIII: 58	
Thu. 6 June	8 p.m.	ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL NEW PHILHARMONIA Zubin Mehta Conductor New Philharmonia Orchestra Ltd. Programme: Mahler: Symphony No. 5 in C minor 36-45, 47-52, 54-59	
Fri. 7 June	8 p.m.	ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL LONDON CHORAL SOCIETY ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA John Pritchard Conductor Basil Douglas Ltd. Programme: Mendelssohn: St. Paul 187-197, 202-204, 206-212, 215-218, 220-224, 226-232, 234-240, 242-246	
Sun. 9 June	3.15 p.m.	ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL ORGAN RECITAL CHRISTOPHER BOYERS BROADBENT Sung by the Chorus of British Music Programme: Purcell: "The African"; Bach: Toccata in G major; Widor: Toccata in G major; Liszt: Toccata in G major	
Sun. 9 June	7.50 p.m.	ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL LONDON SYMPHONY Edward Hirsch Conductor London Symphony Orchestra Ltd. In aid of the LSO Trust Programme: Brahms: Violin Concerto in G major Op. 77	
Mon. 10 June	8 p.m.	ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL MENUHIN FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA Yehudi Menuhin Conductor Michael Dobson Harold Holt Ltd. Programme: Beethoven: Piano Concerto in G major Op. 58; Mendelssohn: Piano Concerto in E minor Op. 34; Bruch: Violin Concerto in G minor Op. 26	
Tue. 11 June	8 p.m.	ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA John Eliot Gardiner Conductor John Lill Royal Philharmonic Orchestra Ltd. Programme: Tchaikovsky: Symphony No. 3 in D minor Op. 54; Beethoven: Piano Concerto No. 1 in D major Op. 15	
Wed. 12 June	8 p.m.	ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA John Eliot Gardiner Conductor John Lill Royal Philharmonic Orchestra Ltd. In aid of the LSO Trust Programme: Mendelssohn: Violin Concerto in E minor Op. 64; Beethoven: Piano Concerto in D major Op. 15	
Thu. 13 June	8 p.m.	ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN (U) Conductor: Anthony Chin A film, in colour, of Beethoven's life and work, made in Germany in 1954, narrated by the author, Hans Conrad Fischer with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Sir Thomas Beecham. Includes: Symphony No. 3, Op. 55; Piano Sonata No. 10, Op. 49; Piano Sonata No. 17, Op. 111	
Fri. 14 June	8 p.m.	ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL NEW PHILHARMONIA Klaus Mengedotter Conductor New Philharmonia Orchestra Ltd. Programme: Mahler: Symphony No. 4 in D minor Op. 51	

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Jim Sharman's last tango in Nashville: the electricity of words and images

The three most influential stage musicals over the last ten years, arguably over the last twenty, have been *Hair*, *Jesu Christ Superstar* and *The Rocky Horror Show*. Jim Sharman directed all three for Australia, the latter two for London and the last one also for America. And very soon he's going to be thought of as a musical director; born and brought up in Australia, the only son of a fairground family, he spent most of his childhood touring with the sidegshows and he reckons it is that background and atmosphere which most strongly conditioned his production of *Tooth of Crime* which with words and music by Sam Shepard opens at the Royal Court in London next Wednesday.

It will not be the first time that the play has been seen in London: Charles Marowitz did a production at the Open Space two years ago and since then it has been seen elsewhere, most notably in Bristol. For the Court, however, Sharman has brought together the team of actors and designers responsible for *Rocky Horror* including its author, Richard O'Brien, who plays Crow to the Host of Mike Pratt. "Shepard's plays," says Sharman, "have already been named up and down the land and maybe here we are naming yet another one, but at least we're doing it in consultation with the author. Ever since I did a shorter play of his called *The Usenet Hand* at the Court Upstairs I've wanted to do this one, although what I really wanted was to film it. Shepard was a drummer in a rock band before he started writing—maybe that's what brought us together. Ever since I started working in the theatre in Australia ten years ago it's worried me that you can go to a rock concert and find all the excitement in the world and then go into a theatre and be bored out of your mind. I've been trying, admittedly not always successfully, to get that quality of a rock concert—the electricity of words and images—into the theatre.

Tooth of Crime is set in a future perspective, and I suppose it's really a style match, a contest between an established gangster/politician/rock star and a challenger who comes out of nowhere and makes him fight for his life.

"In doing Sam's plays people get carried away by the intellectual mythology of his work, but what they forget is that he's a writer of adventure stories; maybe I did once call this 'Last



Photograph by Warren Harrison

Tango in Nashville" but it's also a thriller and that's what matters most. Now, too, it's more accessible to an audience than when he first wrote it—after all, we've come through *A Clockwork Orange* and *American Graffiti* since then."

It matters to Sharman that he has been able to get Shepard down from the Theatre Upstairs (where *Rocky Horror* also started) to the Court's main stage; it is possible to see all of his work as theatrical bridge-building, bringing to sizeable audiences shows which when they started were thought to have a distinctly limited market.

"I don't believe in the art-house circuit whether it's for plays or films; you've got to reach out, but that needn't mean destroying the material you work with. I've been lucky, not only in having 'Superstar' as a kind of banker so that I didn't have to work just for the money, but also in having collected around me a group of designers and actors with whom I can work from show to show."

Sharman talked as a director with the Old Tote company in Australia, and first made his name with a revue affiliated to *Oz* magazine.

"Then in 1966, when discotheques had just hit Australia, I thought I'd try a six-hour non-stop entertainment from eight until two in the morning in which disco sessions were interrupted by performances of Genet's *The Maids*. People dropped to the ground with exhaustion and financially it was a disaster but at least it began to close the gap between theatre and other forms of live entertainment. After that I did about 20 productions all over Australia (you have to keep travelling to stay in work as a director) ending up with *Don Giovanni* for the Australian Opera Company. I did it on a chessboard in a kind of Brechtian tradition and the reviews all started 'Description of a Masterpiece'."

"All except one: a Sydney critic who had been librarian of the Berlin State Opera said it was the only good opera he'd ever seen in Australia and after his review people were kinder

about it—including the *Hair* people who asked me to direct that in Sydney."

Hair (which ran for four and a half years in Australia) led to *Jesu Christ Superstar* and Sharman's partnership with Brian Thomson who, being an ex-architect, had what Sharman describes as "a healthy contempt" for the idea that scenery is just something in front of which actors act. The money they made from *Hair* and *Superstar* was used by Sharman to make a 16mm black and white movie called *Shirley Thompson Versus The Aliens*.

"It was the first film to explore science fiction in terms of rock and roll—maybe that's why I liked *The Rocky Horror Show* so much when Richard O'Brien brought it to me. We made it in three weeks at a time when everyone else in Australia was trying to make a real B movie. At first it didn't do so well but now, since *Rocky Horror* opened there, it's come into its own at last."

"I don't feel like an exile, though when I was in living in Australia all the time I felt terribly cut off, deprived of the chance to see other directors' work. But for my generation there isn't the terrible need to escape that there was maybe 15 years ago: nor is London any longer the only mecca. I've got to see a bit of anything at the Aldwych, except Brook's *Midsummer Night's Dream*, and even that doesn't seem to have had the profound influence and effect it should have had on subsequent production. I couldn't believe that after it the theatre could go on in the same old way... yet that's just what's happened. A theatre which produced Shakespeare and Marlowe now seems preoccupied with plays which would be better seen on television—people seem resigned to a lack of magic."

But what now for Sharman? "Well, *Tooth of Crime* will be my play for a long while; without being about the last decade in precise terms it explores the debris of what happened in the 1960s and I see it as some sort of conclusion. Maybe I'll try to film *Rocky Horror* again. I just not do anything, somehow I don't think I'd be happy in one of the big state companies and I'd rather be out of the theatre entirely than doing plays I didn't like. The trouble with the theatre is that nobody asks the question why we do it. We do this particular show at this particular time with these particular actors?"

"Still, I've done my bit for the cause of art... with *The Rocky Horror Show*, during its run in the theatres of this country, we turned five cinemas back into live theatres."

Sheridan Morley

Puppets' sentimental fable

Les Veuves Round House

Charles Lewsen

This new play of Francois Billeloux is presented by a company from l'Espace Pierre Cardin; but there is nothing chic about it, radical or otherwise.

It is a sentimental fable about a village in an unspecified region of southern Europe, whose men have all disappeared to the regret, at times guilty, of the women. Poussiere, a male child remains; but though he is coddled in a vast bed, the women fear for his health. They hope that some Uncle will come from the village long ago to win his fortune in the New World. Uncle returns, awakens their memories and their guilts. He is smothered by the women; but his spirit is not somehow strengthened little Poussiere and, as recorded narration assures us, "the world is just beginning."

M Billeloux is not, I think, trying to show the New World coming to redress the balance of the Old. Certainly Olivier Hussant's Uncle, in baggy trousers and shirt, looks like a peasant untouched by life in America; and, save war, the causes of the men's deaths—fear, misery, greed, envy—do not particularly suggest that of the political intervention of a Friendly Power is required (not that this would necessarily deter a Pover determined to be Friendly).

It is an apolitical piece of whimsy, albeit a touch minimalist, when the widows set upon their failed hero. What gives it such interest as it has is the performance, which offers the boy and the old women in the shape of puppets.

They all have long angular faces and deep-set eyes; the boy is dressed in a black pietist costume which set against his face with its expression reminiscent of Marleco Dietrich at her most inscrutable, makes him a striking point of focus for a doomed village.

He is about two feet high; the widows are vast creatures manipulated by actors, who the dwarf more touching than the rather portentous story are the faces of the operators, with their concerned involvement in the life they stir in their great scarecrows.

One of the figures has a bronze face which takes on a touch of life simply by moving beneath the predominantly amber lighting. Otherwise the faces are out of works of distinction. The actors' movements suggest that the set may have been designed for a larger space; but in any circumstances I think one would sense disparity between the papier maché baroque female who lurks (for what reason I cannot tell) over the action, and the stainless steel flower (used twice as a loudhailer) and the cynosurium parallel bars which face her across the central bed.

While I find the visual disparity conspicuous, I continually responded with pleasure to the variety of Vangelis Papathanassiou's percussion and folk melody.

Hephzibah Menuhin Queen Elizabeth Hall

Though wrist trouble caused young Jeremy Menuhin to cancel the piano recital to which those of us who had heard him only in concertos were much looking forward, his place was taken by his aunt, Hephzibah. Since she, too, is more familiar in partnership with her brother, it was interesting to renew acquaintance with her alone in a programme of Handel, Mendelssohn, Schubert, Bloch and Beethoven.

Only the fact that she did not risk playing anything from memory revealed that the recital was not long planned. Her fingers could not have been more nimble had she slaved over the programme for months. But

since her style of music-making is more fluent and gracious than arduously soul-searching, it was the less troubled music that came off best.

She was happiest in Handel's D minor suite at the start. To plunge cold into such an intricate stream of notes, and to discharge them so deftly and translucently, and with such perceptive awareness of points of contrapuntal cunning as well as the expressive and stylistic issues involved, was no small achievement.

Whether she made Mendelssohn's D minor, in the Variations, as convincing, quite enough of a new romantic world was open to question. No doubt the composer would have preferred Miss Menuhin's fluent understatement to exaggerated contrasts of characterization. But the suspicion remained that she was too inclined to scurry around

with hogholes and sprites, not least in No. 13, too fast for clarity, after almost human disquiet. All 36 of Schubert's Waltzes, Op. 9, danced and glistened; a more rustic note here and there might have helped to lighten mood contrasts.

Beethoven's late A flat sonata, Op. 110, was so refined in tone, and finely proportioned within its own limits that it was not until afterwards that you felt deprived; however much Miss Menuhin secretly shared the composer's pique (in the Scherzo) his ache (in the Arioso) and his ultimate exhortation, she did not project the spiritual pilgrimage at full strength. Bloch's graphic piano sonata, menaced by war-clouds of the 1930s, also lacked its true volta, though all gratitude must go to Miss Menuhin for rescuing this now neglected work.

LSO/Groves/Curzon Festival Hall

Alan Blyth

Walton was present at the Festival Hall on Thursday to hear the LSO and its chorus revive his *In Honour of the City of London*, written for Leeds in 1937. I dare say Sir William was sufficient critic of his own music to wish that some of his more worthwhile scores, such as the *Viola Concerto* and the second symphony that hardly ever appear in concert programmes, were being brought back into circulation rather than this derivative shaving off the block of *Belshazzar's Feast*.

The Dunbar poems he set did not perhaps inspire him to very

fresh thoughts, its ceaseless praise of the capital allowing him hardly a chance for variety, still less for that sombre vein he was missing so successfully in other works of about the same time. Certainly there was no sign of the "delicacy and economy" in the use of huge forces mentioned in the programme. Sir Charles Groves, the chorus and orchestra gave it with tremendous verve as though they at least believed in it.

Mozart's D minor concerto soon had our minds on higher things, particularly with Clifford Curzon at the keyboard expounding the first movement's stark message with severe, magisterial playing, then capturing the simplicity of the Romanza's opening with the inevitability that comes only from long experience. Still

better was to come in the effortlessly decorated first episode, and in the perfectly timed conversation with the wind in the finale. Unfortunately he received, by and large, lacklustre support from the orchestra, the contribution of which to the finale was distinctly scrappy.

Nor in Dvorak's sixth symphony did they give the sort of performance that made one want to place the work in the same category as at least two of its successors. Best in moments when the work turns to tragedy, as in the heart of the slow movement, Groves's reading elsewhere tended to be pawky, lacking Bohemian grace and fire. But maybe we have been spoiled by past performances of this category with the LSO under the late but unforgotten Kertész.

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THURSDAY, 13 JUNE
Mozart: Piano Concerto in C major
Mozart: Piano Concerto in E major
Mozart: Piano Concerto in G major
Mozart: Piano Concerto in A major
Conductor: William Walton

Conducted by DAVID LITVAUR

FRIDAY, 14 JUNE
Mozart: Piano Concerto in C major
Mozart: Piano Concerto in E major
Mozart: Piano Concerto in G major
Mozart: Piano Concerto in A major
Conductor: William Walton

Conducted by DAVID LITVAUR

FRIDAY, 15 JUNE
Mozart: Piano Concerto in C major
Mozart: Piano Concerto in E major
Mozart: Piano Concerto in G major
Mozart: Piano Concerto in A major
Conductor: William Walton

Conducted by DAVID LITVAUR

FRIDAY, 16 JUNE
Mozart: Piano Concerto in C major
Mozart: Piano Concerto in E major
Mozart: Piano Concerto in G major
Mozart: Piano Concerto in A major
Conductor: William Walton

Conducted by DAVID LITVAUR

FRIDAY, 17 JUNE
Mozart: Piano Concerto in C major
Mozart: Piano Concerto in E major
Mozart: Piano Concerto in G major
Mozart: Piano Concerto in A major
Conductor: William Walton

Conducted by DAVID LITVAUR

Handwritten note: 1974/6/1/55

Clive Barnes/New York Notebook
Jim Dale, Broadway's new folk-legend

Perhaps one should apologise for writing again on dance. There are, let me apologise. But currently New York in this changeable spring—a time when the climate takes an erratic course—assesses, besides, various, sometimes very various, dance concerns. A man could send himself mad catching up with dance activity in this city.

I have a great interest in and respect for the Louis Falco dance company. Yet it gave an entire week's season at Lincoln Centre and I did not get to see a single performance. I caught in passing Paul Sanardo in Brooklyn and Bella Lewitsky at the Hunter College Playhouse. I gathered a few performances of the Alvin Ailey company at city centre and this is truly one of America's major troupes.

One glorious kick in the behind of the Broadway season has been Frank Dunlop's staging of Scapino for the Young Vic. This has now opened on Broadway with sensational success, and has made an overnight Broadway star of Jim Dale. The company appeared earlier at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, in a repertory, but that was merely a toe-testing of the water. Now back for an extended tour, the company is doing Britain proud, and fast making Mr Dale into a Broadway folk-legend. They will probably never let him go. He is being called a new Danny Kaye. But our Jim still has his feet on the ground. When questioned on this new accolade by a reporter, he smiled nicely and said: "Oh well, yes... I am sure it was meant as a compliment. America has received less diplomatic ambassadors."

Despite Scapino, the New York cultural news at present is primarily dance news. New York is the greatest dance town in the world and just once in a while takes it upon itself to prove it. During the past couple of weeks we have had five companies in town at one time and various, sometimes very various, dance concerns. A man could send himself mad catching up with dance activity in this city.

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MacMillan must take full credit for the success in many New York ballets—and I do just mean the disturbed people who hood him on the last night or chanted slogans at him at the stage door—there was something not quite right. Some *Romeo and Juliet*, its title sets well anywhere, and even the Prokofiev music has its slightly shop-soiled charms. But MacMillan's version of this ballet nowadays is not particularly engaging or original. Originality is a dance goddess that can be pursued too assiduously.

The company had an enormous triumph—frankly its biggest yet—but ironically while love beautiful dancing and we cheer accordingly. But the dancers being cheered should not be fooled. The cheers are fundamentally for them, not for *Manon*.

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FOR THE EPICURE

Advertisement for Estate Bottled Dessert Wines for the discerning palate. Features a coat of arms and text about wine selection and prices.

Chess Latin lament

It is fascinating to observe the rise and fall, or the reverse, of chess-playing nations. How the little become big, or the big dwindle to little is a delightful philippic exercise, except of course when one's own country is concerned when it becomes either a bombastic rhodomontade or a whining jeremiad.

So, looking onwards, one sees a startling reversal in fortune on the part of the two great chess-playing Latin countries, Italy and France. Both are now regarded as weak chess-playing nations. Italy indeed had some 200 years in which it dominated the world scene, notably in the 16th and 17th centuries; while France produced, in the 19th century, one of the greatest chess players of all time in Andre Danican Philidor. But its hour of glory was transient. A glorious morning was succeeded by a somnolent afternoon as far as chess was concerned, and a dismal evening lit up only by such figures as the residence of Alekhine and Tartakower in Paris. Remarkably, and perhaps as a sort of natural compensation for the lack of native talent, they are about to hold the greatest chess tournament of all time at Nice in June where 78 countries will be competing.

The 19th and 20th centuries saw the rise of the Slav nations, notably Russia, Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia, and also of such central and eastern European countries as Germany and Hungary. The United States, too, came in with a bang in the 19th century. First with Paul Morphy, then later with Pillsbury and Marshall. So recent and so startling was the advent of Bobby Fischer that it hardly needs mentioning.

To take one specific instance, let us look at Argentina. This great country, potentially at any rate, has been in existence only a short time compared with the history of chess. Almost from the start, however, it played a significant role in chess, not only in the Americas but also internationally.

I well remember that, when I was young master, Argentina had a team of four that in other terms in the Olympiad had to respect. These consisted of the history of chess. Almost from the start, however, it played a significant role in chess, not only in the Americas but also internationally.

By Harry Golombek

Bridge Time to finesse

I never tire of emphasising how many superfluous finesses are taken. Sometimes it hurts so much to be dummy when the declarer can see only one possible way to his contract by means of a finesse that you feel you must escape the anguish of watching his play.

Bridge hand diagram showing a deal with cards in spades, hearts, diamonds, and clubs. Includes a table of card counts and a small diagram of the hand.

West leads the ♠8 and the ♠10 holds the trick. Declarer successfully finesses the ♠Q and West switched to the ♠10. A second heart was ruffed and declarer cashed the ♠A followed by a small spade to the ♠K. Declarer finessed the ♠Q and found himself in the following position:

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Word search puzzle grid with words hidden in various directions. Includes a list of words to find and the author's name, Edward Mayer.

Edward Mayer

CINEMAS

ALICE IN WONDERLAND... THE GODFATHER... THE GODFATHER PART II... THE GODFATHER PART III...

LE TERRAIN DES AUTRES... THE GODFATHER PART II... THE GODFATHER PART III...

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LEONARD... THE GODFATHER PART II... THE GODFATHER PART III...

ROLAND BROWSE & DELEANO... THE GODFATHER PART II... THE GODFATHER PART III...

RESTAURANTS... THE GODFATHER PART II... THE GODFATHER PART III...

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Sportsview

World Team Tennis, a lusty babe struggling for life

European tennis is in a state of turmoil. At a time when the leading players would ordinarily be flocking here for the traditional tournaments many are engaged in the new inter-city league (World Team Tennis) in the United States.

Kodes and Stan Smith (present and former Wimbledon champions) Arthur Ashe and Bjorn Borg, the Swedish wonder-boy. Taylor, who plays for the Boston Lobsters says he is enjoying himself, "although it took a bit of getting used to."

Philadelphia is lucky to have Mrs King. But what about the other teams? The Houston Ex-Riders also have a gill-edged draw in John Newcombe, and they are doing well at the box office.

Power-sharing is still the only way forward for Ulster

The Irish always maintain that there is no Irish problem, only an English problem, but only can anyone believe that after the events of the last few years. Successive British Governments have tried to cope with the problems in their own way but it was really the last Conservative administration which, more than any other, attempted to bring about a fundamental solution to that unhappy province.

George Hutchinson

China visit can do Mr Heath nothing but good

The warm and indeed ardent reception accorded to Mr Heath in China seems bound to have appreciable political consequences at home. The reports of his welcome have served to remind us that the rambling exceedingly well thought of abroad. The experience has been one to lift his heart and spirits. Who could fail to be exhilarated by such attention?

Was Nehru really so misguided?

Many foreign observers, including diplomats, concluded rapidly - too rapidly - that Pandit Nehru was a Westerner in Indian dress. But the truth about his character was probably more complex than the article published in The Times on the tenth anniversary of his death last Monday suggested.

Rich passages from the brave old days of The Thunderer

Documents illuminating the early history of The Times, when The Thunderer was being forged, have been presented to the Archives of Printing House Square. In particular they fill in details of the career and methods of Thomas Barnes, the powerful but shadowy figure who edited the paper from 1817 to 1841, and was its first editor in the modern sense of the word.

Lord Gore-Booth

While this represented a considerable concession, like most initiatives in Ireland, it was too little and too late. The Council of Ireland could only be reached on the principle of unanimity and, therefore, by the Northern Ireland Assembly as a whole. Also, there were certain advantages in that the Irish Government would have to be increasingly cooperative in terms of security, although it still fell short of his fundamental wish of an extradition treaty covering the return of wanted IRA terrorists.



Printing House Square, London, EC4P 4DE. Telephone: 01-236 2000

MR SLATER PREFERS CASH

Mr Jim Slater has had one of the most successful careers in the history of London since the war. His outstanding quality is his intelligence; he has a first class mind which he has chosen to apply to business. He is not really an industrialist and his excursions into industrial management have not been particularly successful. But in the management of money and investments he is outstanding. This makes his latest pronouncements on the future of the City, Walker Securities particularly interesting and particularly disturbing. So far this year he has realized £50m of the group's assets. His cash holdings are now approaching £200m. He defends his position on the grounds that cash is the optimum investment "for the major part of Slater, Walker's assets. If Mr Slater values cash so highly, how can any of us rest of us dare to own anything but money? Mr Slater makes a strong case for his policy; he argues that here could either be a major recession or hyper inflation or possibly merely the continuation of inflation at a high but not rising level. Cash would be the

best investment in case of a recession when assets could be bought cheaply. It is not clear that the alternatives to cash provide a better safeguard against inflation itself, and they cannot always be realized if that is needed. Yet this preference for cash is an admission that even Mr Slater does not expect to be able to maintain the purchasing power of a large part of the funds he controls. After tax he cannot obtain a return as high as 10 per cent on cash on short term deposit. Inflation is currently running at an annual rate of somewhere near 20 per cent. If cash is the optimum investment, the optimum investment would still show a decline of approximately 10 per cent per annum in its purchasing power, even if all the income were reinvested. The private individual cannot liquidate most of his assets. He is in particular not able to liquidate his house which is usually his best asset. Mr Slater is certainly right to believe that in the later stages of a major inflation, liquidity crises frequently occur, even when the money supply is rising

fast, prices and the demand for money can rise faster. In this situation those who hold cash are certain to lose part of their purchasing power, but those who do not hold cash are liable to be sharply squeezed. The private individual is almost certainly well advised to balance his position, so that he has a little short term debt and as substantial physical assets, which will at least survive inflation, as he can manage. Yet there is a deeper lesson than this. In its early stages inflation expands trade by bringing the supply of money up to the level of full employment. Once that point has been reached, further inflation rewards successful speculation but provides diminishing rewards for production and the creation of real wealth. In this way it tends to discredit the financial system by emphasizing non-productive speculation as against production. Mr Slater's company, now that he has turned it largely into cash, is merely a paper palace, and the paper in which it is built is rapidly declining in value. The fearful thing is that he is quite likely right in his decision.

The contents of stately homes

From Mr John Harris Sir, You publish the Duke of Bedford's letter (May 20) at a most apposite moment. Just now the future of the country house is a problem for its owners. Mr Marcus Binney and our colleagues, preparing *Gone, Gone, Gone: The destruction of the country house 1875-1975*, an exhibition intended to launch European Architectural Heritage Year. Conceived by Dr Roy Strong, this exhibition will open at the Victoria and Albert Museum on October 9. The photographic survey of destruction will be a fearful experience, for no one has ever surveyed the extent of loss in the black years between 1920 and 1939, and 1945 and 1955. The world of artistic destruction is far worse than anything that the Reformation. It is possible to list over 800 houses that have been demolished since 1875, and from 1920 one beautiful house was demolished every three days. There is a general feeling that with millions visiting country houses their future is hazy and the situation is a healthy one. Alas, this is not so, and we await with trepidation Mr John Harris's report on the country house problem, commissioned by the Historic House Owners' Association, to be published by the British Tourist Authority. This report, our exhibition, and a book on the theme being published by Thames and Hudson, will reveal the terrifying problems that face country house owners in the not too distant future. The wealth tax is only one of the causes of the situation. It is now more pressing than it was when Sir Ernest Gowers was general in 1948, to "consider what special arrangements might be made for the preservation, maintenance and use of houses of outstanding historic, architectural interest which might otherwise not be preserved including where desirable the preservation of a house and its contents as a unit". Of the important recommendations made in the Gowers Report, only one was implemented: the formation of the Historic Buildings Council. The main recommendations that were not implemented are now, nearly 30 years later, of concern to all who regard the country house as an industry, a key role in the nation's education, leisure and recreation. They were that the Historic Buildings Council should compile lists of outstanding houses of an importance over and above the normal grade I and grade II, with the idea that some of these should be automatically qualified for financial assistance; that if owners opened their houses to the public they should have relief from income tax

Letters to the Editor

and surtax in respect of repairs and maintenance of the house and its contents, and relief from death duties on property assigned to trustees to maintain the house out of the income of that property; and that it should be possible for house owners who open to the public to set all reasonable expenditure on upkeep against tax. Since so many of these key recommendations were left unheeded, the problem is now critical. Something must be done urgently to help the owner who wants to keep the house, its contents and surroundings together and intact and is prepared to open to the public. If the government does nothing, within 25 years the majority of privately owned houses open to the public will have been abandoned or sold up and their parks left to arable. Successive Governments have viewed the country house problem with complacency, nipping the initiative and hard work of owners who open to the public will solve that problem. Alas it will not, and now we are arrived at a watershed when indifference or attempts to compromise will lead to another round of artistic destruction far worse than in the past. In the year 2000 the going will have gone. Yours faithfully, JOHN HARRIS, Royal Institute of British Architects, 21 Portman Square, W1.

Educational policy and democracy

From Mrs Margaret Perry and others Sir, We are governors of Highbury Grove School who do not support the motion to reject the shortlist at the recent meeting to appoint a headmaster. Governing bodies meet in private. This may not be right, but we have so far respected our undertakings and have not sought publicity on this meeting. But Mr Butt's article in your issue of May 30 contains errors of fact and highly questionable judgments and we want to set them right. Errors of fact: (1) A shortlist is not handed down from on high. The chairman and vice-chairman, as representatives of the governing body are invited to County Hall to go through the full list of applicants and agree a shortlist in consultation with a member of the authority. The chairman and vice-chairman are elected by agreement among the Labour appointees and at Highbury Grove they are both Labour men. The vice-chairman failed to attend the shortlisting meeting. (2) The decision to reject the shortlist was not a Labour decision. The Labour chairman's action was supported by three Labour appointees. It was rejected by four Labour men who got the support of a Conservative and three non-party appointees. (3) The deputy head was not appointed by Mr Boyson but by the governing body. (4) We are surprised that the future of the school's successful remedial department was regarded as an issue. The point was not made at the meeting. The reasons given for not shortlisting applicants members of staff (one on the one hand and inexperienced on the other) seemed to us good ones. Further, Mr Butt's article has very little relevance to the school as it exists. The school just isn't like that. It is an error of judgment to take Dr Boyson at his own estimate. He has been successful as a journalist and a PR man. This has helped the school in winning LCAs; confidence and we are grateful for this. But the school still has a long way to go: academic standards in particular are lower than we would perhaps, produce the same result. Many foreign visitors comment on the completeness of the houses they visit in England, so may we hope that this Government (which has on a past occasion purchased the furniture belonging to Audley End House so that it might remain there) will now act on the wealth tax in such a way as to ensure that the contents of these great houses may remain a part of them? Yours faithfully, CORINE G. WILSON, Gable Cottage, Ide Hill, Sevenoaks, Kent. May 28.

school derives from staff who are fresh, humane and approach the boys as personalities; such staff would not subscribe to Dr Boyson's fictions. Our problem now is to retain such staff and attract new staff of quality. For this, Mr Butt's article can only do harm. Yours faithfully, MARGARET PERRY, DUNCAN HAMILTON, CRISPIN ST HILL, Isleington, May 30.

From Mr J. Stanley Heath Sir, When it might be better not to toe the line, I would like to congratulate Ronald Butt on his article about Highbury Grove School and the Inner London Education Authority. As a governor for 15 years of two voluntary aided schools, the situation is not unfamiliar to me, and it is a very disturbing feature of life here today that officialdom will have its way - almost at any cost. However, the Education Act 1944 contains the general principle to be observed by the Minister and the Local Education Authorities in that pupils are to be educated in accordance with the wishes of their parents. Section 76 provides for all powers and duties conferred and imposed on them by this Act the Minister and Local Education Authorities shall have regard to the general principle that, so far as is consistent with the provision of efficient instruction and training and the avoidance of unreasonable public expenditure, pupils are to be educated in accordance with the wishes of their parents. I suggest that the appropriate action to be taken is for the parents of pupils at Highbury Grove School to make known to no uncertain manner what their wishes are, and they should similarly make known to the Minister exactly and precisely what their wishes are, and if the LEA and the Minister choose to disregard the wishes of the parents, they have a right to demand the provisions of Section 76. Yours faithfully, J. STANLEY HEATH, Beaver's Lodge, 10 Albert Road, Trentham, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, May 30.

A BILL TO MAKE TRUTH ACTIONABLE

The laudable motive behind the Rehabilitation of Offenders Bill is to make it possible for persons who have once been convicted of a relatively minor offence but have "gone straight" subsequently to shed the burden and stigma of their previous criminal record. The Bill, which is making its third attempt to become law, (lack of time and a supervening election having put paid to its previous efforts) provides that some convictions can become "spent" after a certain number of years have elapsed, and the offender be considered rehabilitated. A sliding scale is laid down, allowing, at the one end, a person convicted of a non-custodial sentence to become rehabilitated after five years, and at the other, a conviction resulting in a sentence of thirty months requiring a ten-year period to become spent. The effect of rehabilitation would be that the individual would not have to divulge his previous conviction to a prospective employer, or state it on application forms for insurance, passports and the like. Another consequence would be that a court before which he might appear would in many cases not know of his spent conviction. This provision has aroused bitter criticism, notably from the Justices' Clerks Society last week, on the grounds that a court cannot know how to properly deal with an offender unless it knows the full facts about him. The Bill also contains a clause allowing a person to sue for defamation if his "spent" convictions are disclosed. Unlike other instances of alleged defamation truth would be no de-

fence. The Faulks Committee, looking into the whole field of defamation, recently published an interim report strongly attacking that clause as a serious and unjustifiable inroad on the freedom of the individual to tell the truth. The problem posed by the defamation clause is particularly acute for the press, especially, although not exclusively, for those newspapers involved in investigative journalism. However much in the public interest it might be, they would not be able to reveal, for instance, that a public figure holding a position of some power and influence had once been convicted of corruption, nor that an applicant for the post of warden of a children's home had a previous conviction for sexual offences against children, nor that a treasury minister was associating with someone who had served a prison sentence for fraud. The Bill does not provide for the rehabilitation of anyone who has served a sentence of more than 30 months imprisonment. But many offences of fraud and corruption where complex financial transactions are involved, are dealt with by way of a fine, because of the tendency for a prosecuting authority to accept guilty pleas to lesser counts rather than have a lengthy, complicated and expensive jury trial on more serious charges. The defamation clause would also make it virtually impossible to publish a book on an important trial in which one of a number of defendants was convicted but given a non-custodial or short prison sentence, or a serious work of biography or recent history in

which mention is made that a living person had once been convicted of a relatively minor crime. All these issues will no doubt be considered during the Bill's committee stage this month and there has been some talk of an amendment creating a defence of "public interest" to a suit for defamation. There may, at this time, however, be some Parliamentary resistance to giving the press a concession of this kind when legislation is being formulated to deal with its allegedly excessive intrusions into privacy. In any event, a public interest defence is not necessarily the answer. It would be open to the objection, as in the field of contempt, that in many cases it would be impossible to know beforehand whether a court is subsequently going to hold that a particular publication was or was not in the public interest. Mr Alexander Lyon said during the Bill's second reading that if the defamation clause were omitted, the Bill would be "without meaning". That need not be so. Most people whom the Bill is designed to help would still be helped, by not having to disclose their spent convictions. The press's interest would be confined to a small minority, and only where some greater issue was involved. The right of the press to serve the public interest in these cases should not be taken away; this is particularly important when offences of fraud or company malfeasance is concerned—a man who has once been guilty of such an offence should certainly not be free to enjoy a good character in soliciting investment. Experience has shown that to be the only safe way to protect an often gullible public.

The troubles in Ulster

From the Reverend John Stewart Sir, I am fully aware that the British press has been saturated with Irish reading, the point of fatigue for the moderate opinion. Nevertheless, the voice of moderate opinion and assessment has not at any time managed to get through. I was a Labour Party member at the time of the Assembly elections who stood on reconciliation, power sharing and community government, but not in the Council of Ireland part of the Sunningdale agreement. The Northern Ireland Labour Party at times kept its proposals confined to the limit of consensus within the Protestant majority working class. However, it must be said that the British Labour Party through courtesy listened, but greater importance was given to other sources of information from SDLP, and Republican personalities within the British Labour Movement. Let it be fully understood, regardless of a few loud voices on the Loyalist side, the power sharing proposals were not simply accepted in principle by all. No one in Northern Ireland denies that both communities must live, and share government together. It was within this situation, that when the vote regarding the Council of Ireland was taken in the Assembly that the crisis developed. Mr David Bleakley, the only member of NILP, did not vote for the acceptance but tried to force both sides off the dangerous road by unsuccessfully proposing an amendment. This failed and the constitutional strike took place. Most people within the province were against the action taken by the Ulster Workers Council, however they were more aware of the risks of a building up within the Protestant majority. Irresponsible statements from SDLP politicians at various meetings that the Council of Ireland must be a step towards a united Ireland, far outweighed comforting reassurances from both Faulkner and Westminster. The return of eleven members to Westminster, was an anti-Council of Ireland vote more than an anti-community government vote in Ulster. The tide of changing consensus was marked in the return of the Rev Robert Bradford to Westminster from South Belfast. This constituency was known as the middle class, stock broker, halt that was noted for its very high concentration of moderate opinion. It was nature that the support of the strike became a massive expression right across every section of the Protestant population. Moderate people, including doc-

Decision on Iranian

From the Iranian Ambassador Sir, In the report in your issue of May 21 under the headline "Challenge to Callaghan decision on Iranian", the allegations of certain persons whose opposition to Iran is well known were quoted without any attempt on your part to verify them by referring to the Iranian Embassy, which appeared in The Times of May 17, the reliable that a newspaper of the calibre of The Times should be done this. I am therefore bound to mention a few points in order to enable your readers to make their own correct judgment. Your report referred to a story in The Sunday Times of May 12, alleging that an Iranian diplomat in London had been trying to persuade a British woman to inform on the activities of dissident Iranian students here. In our view the incident described was deliberately set up for the purpose of providing The Sunday Times with material designed to discredit the Iranian Government. The woman described as the central figure is, contrary to what has been generally alleged, an Iranian national and her name is Elisabeth Rosenthal. As recently as December 4, 1973, she applied to the Consular section of the Embassy for the extension of her Iranian passport. This was duly granted, but on the form which she filled in in her own handwriting for this purpose she did not reveal that she was married to a British man, as the sub-headline above The Sunday Times story "A secret policeman" . . . this time the victim was a

Moats with crocodiles

From Mr J. M. Megan Sir, Sir Douglas Busk's remarks in his letter "Moats with crocodiles", which appeared in The Times of Wednesday, May 29, are flippant and unnecessary. They contribute nothing to the problem of crowd control at all. It would appear Sir Douglas Busk is completely uninterested in the reasons why violence at our football matches is an ever increasing problem. As an ardent supporter of Manchester United Football Club I have seen some of the worst types of behaviour in the stands. In a recent match I saw a policeman kicked in the head with steel capped boots whilst his dog was punched to a state of semi-consciousness. I wonder if Sir Douglas Busk ever really seriously thinks that people do this? Part of the answer is that during their years of education they neither had the chance nor the opportunity to become interested in anything at all. Probably, by the age of eleven, when they had failed the eleven plus and non-academics they were only that thought of themselves as failures and non-academics. The only way to break out of this, to their minds and to give themselves an identity, is to be recognized amongst their group. By "leading the gang" and creating violence these needs are being fulfilled. There is no doubt that the problem is complex and in a letter I could not hope to write comprehensively about this subject. I do wish, however, that people of Sir Douglas Busk's position and standing to society would not make flippant and shallow remarks such as these. Furthermore, if these remarks were "translated" in people on the Stretford end (for example) they would only incite greater violence inside and outside the football ground. Yours faithfully, JONATHAN M. MEGAN, 2 Common Close, Horsell, Woking, Surrey.

Help for Portugal

From Mr Anthony Kerr Sir, In his very interesting article (May 28), Nicholas Ashford has overlooked one important issue. What, if anything, is Western Europe prepared to do for Portugal? I believe there is an overwhelming case for effective and co-ordinated action to rescue the Portuguese economy and give democracy a chance. It is a moral obligation no less than what we do for other developing countries several of which, in West Africa especially, are no worse off than Portugal. But it is also a matter of political urgency. We do not want a Communist government in Lisbon or Soviet bases in the Azores and the Cape Verde islands. We must ensure that General Spínola and his Liberal and Socialist allies remain in control. As a first step I would suggest a meeting of the EEC and Extra Foreign Ministers in Lisbon. It would be a useful gesture of solidarity if nothing more. Yours faithfully, ANTHONY J. C. KERR, 52 Castlegate, Edinburgh, Scotland.

LOCAL AND LAY ACCOUNTABILITY

It was only a month ago that the National Health Service underwent the most drastic reorganization of its structure since its creation; so it may seem a little soon for Mrs Castle to be worrying about altering it again. The proposals published this week, however, should not shake the new system unduly, and some of them are likely to improve it. The new three-tier arrangement designed to bring to an end the functional divisions between hospitals, general practice and community services was broadly acceptable to both Labour and Tory opinion, evolved as it had been after a long series of Green Papers and consultative documents. It is still far too early to guess how well it will work. The main charge that the Labour Party brought against it was that it was not democratic enough; and it is this defect that yesterday's paper seeks to amend. The problem has been to introduce an element of local accountability to a service where there is a very strong resistance to the idea of town hall control. The prejudice of doctors against being council employees may not be as lively as it was in Aneurin Bevan's time, but it is still too great for any arrangement on that basis to have been acceptable. The alternative was to set up largely nominated bodies in close contact with local govern-

ment and including members nominated by the councils. The paper proposes that a third of the membership of these regional and area health authorities (RHAs and AHAs) should be councillors. As the effect of its other proposals is to increase the size of the AHAs, this will mean seven or more councillors in a typical membership of twenty or thirty; instead of four or five council nominees out of fifteen or twenty. This will create a very slight increase in democratic control, at the cost of some unwieldiness. Beneath the AHAs come the district management teams, which are in immediate charge of running the service locally. They are entirely professional in membership, and to represent local community interests. The last government added to the pattern the Community Health Councils (CHCs). So far only about a quarter of these have come into being. Five sixths of their members are to be local government nominees. They will have the task of watching and criticizing, both over day-to-day questions of administration and over strategic policy decisions as they affect their districts. In this way, the 1973 Act deliberately separated the task of representing the consumer from the task of management. The discussion paper is rather suspicious of this principle, but hesitantly:

Aims of Industry

From Mr Michael Toens Sir, On May 30 you report Mr R. A. Hughes of the bolle-makers' union as implying that Aims of Industry provide black lists on employees to employers and contractors to keep "All this is totally untrue. Aims of Industry does not, has not, and will not undertake this kind of thing. Yours faithfully, MICHAEL IVENS, Director, Aims of Industry, 5 S. Plough Place, Fetter Lane, EC4. May 30.

Valuing art treasures

From Mr C. J. Fell Sir, With respect Mr Leggett and Mr Levy are unfortunately wrong.

It would be nice if all governments encourage by legislation and otherwise the retention of works of art in this country. The last government, by levying VAT on works of art and antiques effectively subsidized their export. The present government has not yet corrected this. The fact that special VAT schemes arranged for antiques and works of art have avoided the disruption of the London auction houses may account for the fact that so little concern is now shown about this by the leaders of the trades concerned. To many antiques and works of art are money and money matters. Yours sincerely, C. J. FELL, Crown House, Newport, Essex. May 23.

An artist and his levels

From Mr E. Andrew Freeth, RA Sir, R. J. Cowen ("An artist and his levels", May 27) was luckier than another 'fray of mine, who was working up north. He watched him at work on a landscape, as she moved away a woman made a remark in which Os and As were interchanged. She said to her little girl: "Ab bct 'e caot dnv out else"! Yours, R. ANDREW FREETH, 21 Eastbury Road, Northwood, Middlesex.

Divorce in Italy

From Count Capponi Sir, You also seem to have fallen a victim to the (quoting your leader May 15), "deplorably misleading propaganda" to which Italians have been subjected in the referendum on divorce. Admittedly the Italian social, religious and political scene is highly complex and this may well help to explain your incorrect view of events. The fact is that for some Italians who voted against divorce the issue was not a religious one at all, for many only indirectly so, and for others a purely political anti-Communist vote. The reasons for which quite a few nominal Catholics and agnostics voted against divorce are very much the same as those put forward by your 1966 Royal Commission on Marriage and Divorce: the supporters of these

views being further comforted by the knowledge that the agnostic and anticlerical laws of Italy from 1861 to 1929 had already consistently upheld the principle of indissolubility in marriage, aware that Italian society rested (and rests) almost exclusively on the family. As for the catholic hierarchy's (rather lukewarm) support for the anti-divorce front it will not seem too strange if you stop to consider that any permissive law directly or indirectly undermines traditional Christian morality, apart from the gross violation of the concordat of which the Italian state was guilty by bringing in divorce without previous consultation with the Holy See as prescribed by the Lateran Treaty. Of course "expensive annulments" "non provision" for the wife and children after a declaration of nullity, "casualty", etc. etc.

belong to that collection of half truths and falsehoods of which most political propaganda is made up. inter alia it takes into no account the very extensive use of legal aid in church courts, or the fact that wives and children are the responsible of civil law, not canon law, whose enactments in that direction would not be recognized by the Italian courts. Whatever the political outcome of the victory of the committed divorce front one thing is certain, the rift in the Italian church between the "orthodox catholic" majority and the "progressive" minority who voted for divorce has widened probably beyond repair. Yours truly, CAPPONI, Via dei Sardi, Florence. May 18.

Demness captain for three Tests

John Woodcock, who was captain of the England side in the first Test, has been named as the new captain for the three Tests against Australia in the summer.

Demness, who has been given the captaincy for the full three-Test series against India, and the three Tests that will be played in the West Indies, has been named as the new captain for the three Tests against Australia in the summer.

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Michael Demness, who says John Woodcock is gaining in authority and deserves the captaincy of England next week.

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Indians polish off Surrey or first tour victory

The Indians polished off Surrey with a comfortable victory in the first Test of their tour of England.

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Oxford crumble before superior opposition

Oxford University's cricket team crumbled before superior opposition in a recent match.

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Gleam of hope as England's new generation integrates with old

England's new generation of cricketers is beginning to integrate with the experienced players of the old guard.

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Scotland's team unchanged

Scotland's cricket team remains unchanged for the upcoming matches.

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Warwick v Scotland

Player	Runs	Wickets
Warwick	150	2
Scotland	120	3

Indian averages

Player	Runs	Wickets
Indians	200	5
Opposition	180	4

Tennis

Miss Mappin recovers to reach final in the Wimbledon tournament.

Miss Mappin recovers to reach final in the Wimbledon tournament.

Miss Mappin recovers to reach final in the Wimbledon tournament.

Court action lost by Miss Goolagong and Connors

Miss Goolagong and Connors lost court action in a tennis dispute.

Miss Goolagong and Connors lost court action in a tennis dispute.

Miss Goolagong and Connors lost court action in a tennis dispute.

Rowing

Magdalen strive for place in first three rowing events.

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Golf

Mrs Thornhill shows all round ability in a golf tournament.

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Miss Wade loses control

Miss Wade loses control during a tennis match.

Miss Wade loses control during a tennis match.

Miss Wade loses control during a tennis match.

Cycling

Hallam moves up to fourth in Milk Race cycling event.

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Rugby Union

Western Province eager to upset Lions in a rugby match.

Western Province eager to upset Lions in a rugby match.

Western Province eager to upset Lions in a rugby match.

Basketball

Chinese cancel tour of Britain due to political reasons.

Chinese cancel tour of Britain due to political reasons.

Chinese cancel tour of Britain due to political reasons.

Second XI competition

Team	Score
Team A	150
Team B	120

Today's cricket

Match	Score
Match 1	150
Match 2	120

Schools results

School	Score
School A	150
School B	120

Hampshire honour

Hampshire County Cricket Club honours a player for his achievements.

Hampshire County Cricket Club honours a player for his achievements.

Hampshire County Cricket Club honours a player for his achievements.

Kirov equals own record

Kirov equals his own record in a tennis match.

Kirov equals his own record in a tennis match.

Kirov equals his own record in a tennis match.

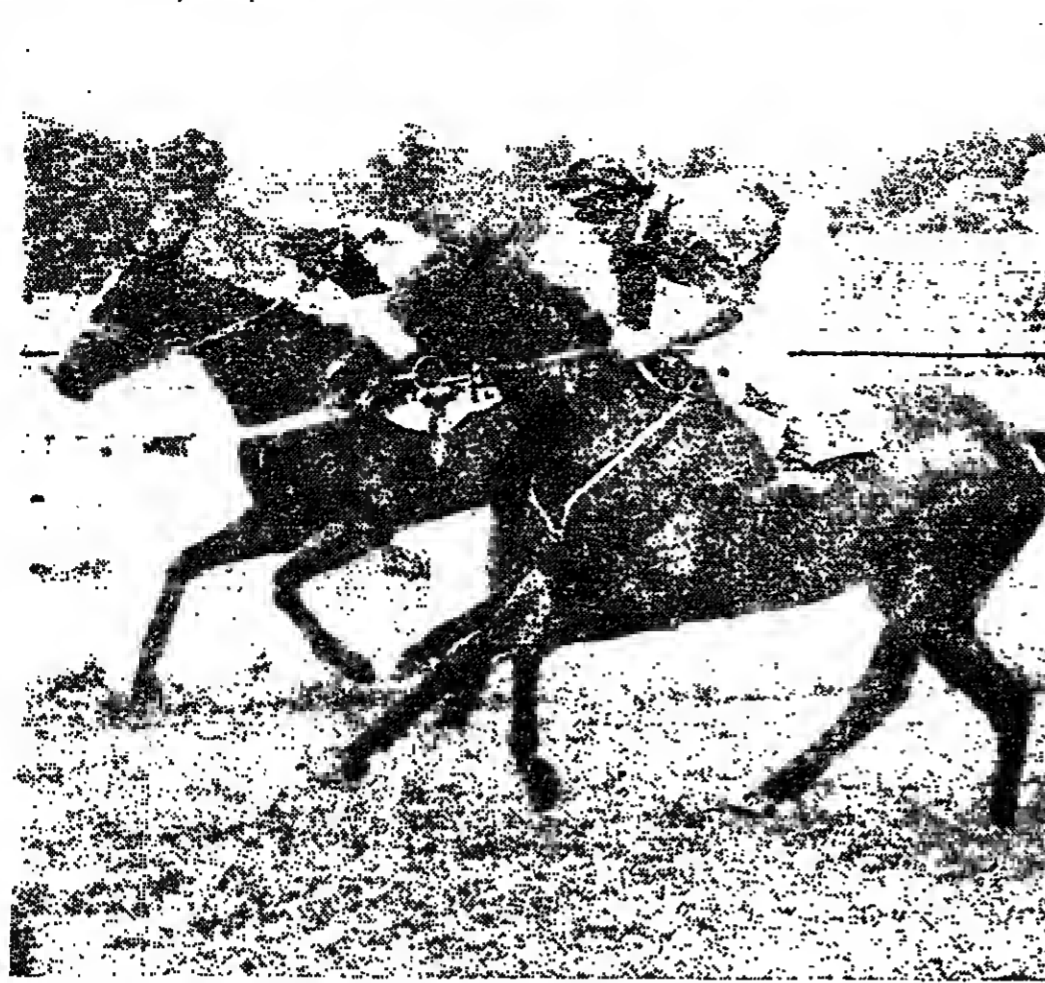
Television highlights

Event	Time
Event 1	7:00 PM
Event 2	8:00 PM

Virus puts Pitcairn out of Derby

By Michael Phillips Racing Correspondent

Pitcairn and Blue Diamond out and Arthurian in, that is a nut...



Baldie Singer (warside) winning the Blackbird Handicap at Kempton Park yesterday

Laminin Stakes to justify a roll at the Queen Mary Stakes at Royal Ascot...

At Kempton yesterday his stable companion, Barrow Boy, finished another point for his trainer...

Pontam set for fifth victory at Thirsk

By Jim Snow Northern Racing Correspondent

On the first of June and the final day of the 1974 National Hunt season...

A regular and popular victor over the Thirsk today, Pontam, winner of four races over the course for Clive Brittain's Newmarket stable...

Ksar may find Margouillat main rival in Prix Dollar

From Pierre Guillot French Racing Correspondent Paris, May 31

Lady Rotherwick's Ksar will be trying to win his second important prize in six days at Longchamp...

After his excellent performance at the second English challenge, Shellblock, does not look up to this class...

Main races at Longchamp

PRIX DE L'ESPERANCE (Group III) 3-y-o colts and fillies: £9,091 (1m 7f)

PRIX DU PALAIS ROYAL (Group III) 2-y-o fillies: £9,091 (1m 7f)

PRIX DOLLAR (Group II) £22,727 (1m 155yds)

Bath and West Show McMahan's second win in three days

By Pamela Macgregor-Morris

Paddy McMahan and Penwood Forgemill consolidated their position as the best of the world championship selection table...

Graham Fletcher and Buttevant Bay were in the water in 40.5sec, which eventually left them disputing third place with Smith on his second horse...

Colonel Harry Llewellyn, wearing one of his other hats, put in a busy morning judging the Welsh ponies, sections A and B...

Strong challenge from French

Paris, May 31—France is a major force in the four-year challenge for Thursday's Coronation Cup at Epsom...

Newmarket programme

Table listing Newmarket racing programmes with details on race times, names, and odds.

Kempton Park programme

Table listing Kempton Park racing programmes with details on race times, names, and odds.

Thirsk programme

Table listing Thirsk racing programmes with details on race times, names, and odds.

Stratford NH

Table listing Stratford NH racing programmes with details on race times, names, and odds.

Thirsk selections

Table listing Thirsk selections with race names and recommended horses.

Market Rasen

Table listing Market Rasen racing programmes with details on race times, names, and odds.

Kempton Park results

Table listing Kempton Park racing results with details on race names, winners, and odds.

Pontefract

Table listing Pontefract racing programmes with details on race times, names, and odds.

Stratford on-Avon

Table listing Stratford on-Avon racing programmes with details on race times, names, and odds.

Newmarket selections

By Our Racing Correspondent 1.30 Starter Supreme, 2.0 Buckenham, 2.30 Nice Tack, 3.0 King Orkney, 3.30 Whedbase, 4.0 LADY ROWLEY is specially recommended, 4.30 Grey God.

Stratford on-Avon

By Our Racing Correspondent 1.30 Starter Supreme, 2.0 Buckenham, 2.30 Nice Tack, 3.0 King Orkney, 3.30 Whedbase, 4.0 LADY ROWLEY is specially recommended, 4.30 Grey God.

Stratford on-Avon

Table listing Stratford on-Avon racing programmes with details on race times, names, and odds.

Special Report
Bloodstock



December Sale at Newmarket is strongly international in character, as a high proportion of the animals bought are destined to go abroad.

Centuries of skill behind sales

By Edgar Mortimer
...the most famous of horse auctioneers in the world, has been operating since 1766 when Mr and Mrs Tattersall opened an establishment at Hyde Park Corner, 865 the premises were transferred to Knightsbridge in 1787, and in 1808, in a new building, mainly of brick, in Park Square, London, the firm was re-established. It is one of the oldest and most successful of the kind in the world. The firm's success is due to its long and distinguished history of selling horses and other animals. The firm's success is due to its long and distinguished history of selling horses and other animals. The firm's success is due to its long and distinguished history of selling horses and other animals.

and performed in a highly eccentric manner.
In 1900 that bold plunger Mr Robert Steiner was reckoned out of his mind when he paid 10,000 guineas for a yearling. Known to his clients as not invariable regarded as acceptable, he had taken the precaution of going up to Newmarket with £20,000 in ready money. In 1902 Sceptre won every classic race except the Derby but her owner was in dire financial trouble by the end of the season.
In 1971 two yearlings from a stud in Ireland were sold for 117,000 guineas and 81,000 guineas respectively. Neither has yet won a race. In 1973 Mr Ravi Tikoo paid 72,000 guineas and 71,000 guineas for two yearlings. The first was the Irish stud of Mr and Mrs W. F. Davison. In spite of the high turnover achieved at Goffs bloodstock sales in Ireland, many leading Irish breeders still prefer to send their yearlings to be sold at Newmarket. The big money often realized by high-class yearlings must be taken into consideration with the huge fees charged for the services of leading stallions. There is not a penny of profit on some yearlings for the seller until the bidding has passed the 10,000 guinea mark.
The main yearling sale conducted at Newmarket by Tattersall is the six-day October Sale at the beginning of that month and the five-day Houghton Sale a fortnight later. It is on these two sales that many owners, who do not breed their own horses, rely to buy the animals that are destined to carry their colours.
The catalogue for the October Sale is long but less distinguished in quality than the catalogue for the Houghton Sale. Many of the yearlings offered at the former sale can be politely described as being of the bread-and-butter variety. The big guns among the buyers scarcely deign to open fire. The market is domestic rather than international.
At the zenith of the bloodstock boom a few years ago, any yearling that possessed the conventional number of legs and employed them sufficiently well to be able to walk round the sale ring without actually falling over was certain to find a buyer. Nowadays, with the rapidly rising costs of maintaining a horse in training, buyers are more selective.
Yearlings of undistinguished pedigree and poor conformation are hard to sell, the more so because the prospective owners often decline to accept market records, and place unrealistic reserves on animals more likely to end up in a tin than in the winner's enclosure.
The present market is a healthy one, with a strong demand for well-made yearlings, but little for inferior animals. Too many yearlings are sold to individuals with little knowledge, experience and patience, jumped on to the bloodstock-breeding handwagon a few years ago. Many are now dropping out of the business and their departure need not be regretted. There are far too many bad horses in circulation.
At the Houghton Sale, business is a good deal livelier and a smaller proportion of yearlings are laid out unsold. Here the big buyers, looking for top-class winners, stand in a long line. Well to the fore is Mr David Robinson, who, self-made, self-contained millionaire, accompanied by a platoon of expert advisers known as "the Robinson Gang".
Mr Robinson has two private trainers and 126 horses. Lady Beaverbrook is happily still undeterred by a record of success that is somewhat daunting. Considering the money she has spent. Other bold buyers are Mr Tikoo, Captain Marcos Lemos and one or two agents acting on behalf of Japanese clients.
At the end of October, Tattersall holds a six-day mixed sale at Newmarket, the feature of which is the large number of horses in training that are offered. Now that fewer prospective jumpers are bred in Ireland, this sale is of prime importance to National Hunt owners and trainers looking for strong horses with such capabilities of jumping hurdles and fences. Because of their scarcity, such animals are anything but cheap.
The last big Newmarket sale is in December. Until now it has been conducted by Captain Kenneth Watt, with his professional skill and his exquisite manners, to put things right.
Much of the export business is not conducted through Tattersall, but by private sales negotiated by the many bloodstock agencies in operation. For instance it is seldom that a stallion of real consequence is led into the sale ring.
In recent years, though, many stallions have been exported to Japan, which has been the destination of seven or eight winners of the Derby. A glance at the Bloodstock Breeders' Review shows the important role played by British-bred stallions not only throughout Europe, North and South America, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa.

Dollar power helps American breeders to buy supremacy

...first American-bred horse to win the Derby was Pierre-Louis in 1881. The victory hailed with delight throughout the United States, and news of it caused the extension of business on the New York Stock Exchange. The sale of thousands of Irish-Americans who regarded the success of Toronto as a splendidly-aimed blow against English arrogance and self-esteem.
The next American-bred Derby winner was Mr R. S. 1971 (Mill Reef) and 1972 (Roi des Etoiles). There was also a son of the British-bred Nasrullah, Never Say Die who was ridden by Lester Piggott, when 18 years old.
Two American-bred Derby winners in a race that had first been run in 1780 were the success of Toronto as a splendidly-aimed blow against English arrogance and self-esteem.

...Sweeps Derby, the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Stakes and the St Leger; Mill Reef, the Coventry Stakes, the Chantilly Stakes, the Dewhurst Stakes, the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Stakes, the Prix Ganay and the Coronation Cup. Robert was the only horse ever to beat the great Brigadier Gerard, a feat he accomplished in the Benson and Hedges Gold Cup at York.
Apart from Nijinsky, there were American-bred St Leger winners in 1967 (Ribocco), 1968 (Ribocco) and 1972 (Boncher). The brothers Ribocco and Ribero both won the Irish Sweeps Derby too.
American-bred fillies have made less impact than the colts but Never Too Late II, who won the 2000 Guineas in 1964, the Oaks in 1964 with Baldrick II, won the 1000 Guineas and the Oaks in 1960. Hula Dancer won the 1000 Guineas and the Champion Stakes in 1963. Long Look the Oaks in 1965.
In 1973 the European two-year-old scene was dominated by American-bred colts and fillies. Apalachee, trained by Mr Vincent O'Brien, looked a champion in the making when she won the Observer Cup and the Doncaster. Not all that far behind him in merit was his stable-companion Callini, winner of the Dewhurst Stakes. The principal autumn event for two-year-olds in America but two of the survivors in the big Cheveley Park Stakes, was won by the American-bred Gentle Thoughts.
In France the three main two-year-old races, the Prix Robert Papin, the Prix Morry and the Grand Critereum, were won respectively by Lianga, Nonalco and Mississippian. All three are American-bred. Outstanding among the three-year-olds in France were two great American-bred fillies, Allez France and Dahlia. Dahlia made mince-meat of her British rivals in the £100,000 King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Stakes but Allez France beat her every time they met.
There are several reasons for the present American supremacy. The power of the dollar has played its part. American breeders have been able to afford to buy the best bloodstock from all over the world and have never faced the necessity for parting with the best of their own.
The late Aga Khan's first three Derby winners, Blenheim, Bahram and Mahmood, were all exported to America, where Blenheim and Mahmood were brilliantly successful. The sale of these three horses represented a serious loss to the British bloodstock industry.
From Ireland the Americans acquired Nasrullah and Royal Charger, both winners of the 1000 Guineas, whose racecourse performances were not always endearing, proved one of the greatest stallions of this century. One of his sons, Enid Ruler, was also a sire of outstanding merit. Royal Charger's sprinter, also named a ten times in America and from him are descended both Sir Ivor and Roberto.
Two of the best European horses of this century, Ribot

Syndicates cut stallion losses

...by Lt-Col R. H. Hastings, chairman and managing director, British Bloodstock Agency.
Foreigners find it difficult to understand the economics of English breeding and racing—a distinct contrast to the situation in France where the stake money in the Paris area is a temptation to ownership of racehorses.
Well-bred fillies always fetch a steep price even if their racing record is undistinguished. Long-established and successful owner-breeders are assured of a good annual income by selling three or four fillies that they do not need for their own stud.
It was at the 1967 December Sale that Vagnely Noble, then a two-year-old, was sold for 136,000 guineas. He subsequently won the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe and is now a leading stallion so was cheap at the price.
However lengthy the catalogue, the sales at Newmarket always run smoothly and the way they are conducted is remarkable. The administrative work in first classifying, then assembling, maintaining and selling in six days more than a thousand horses, is considerable but Tattersall has the advantage of two centuries of experience backed by a small and highly competent staff.
It is rare for anything to go awry, and if it does there is always the senior partner, Captain Kenneth Watt, with his professional skill and his exquisite manners, to put things right.
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The best modern American horses, therefore, tend to be precocious physically and at two years often look older than they really are. At three, though their pedigrees may not be quite so good as those of their British counterparts, they frequently enable them to last out a mile and a half. Their characteristics make them formidable opponents.
The impact of American-bred horses on racing in Britain has been augmented by the fact that Mr O'Brien's powerful stable in Ireland is almost entirely composed of American horses, most of them well bred. This season he has only four horses under

...their clients wanted. Perhaps the best known was the late Brigadier R. S. Scott, a famous ambassador for the British thoroughbred.
Foreign stud owners continue to come back to Britain and Ireland for their stock mainly because the climate and soil enables the United Kingdom to breed fine quality thoroughbreds. While many countries can produce strong, fast racehorses, they have nearly all felt impelled to return at intervals for replenishment of British blood to put back "fine quality and fine bang".
For instance, one of the fastest fillies in New Zealand, Showgate, is by Gatekeeper out of Mingling by Globe of Light out of Mingling by Limond out of Motley by Absurd out of Pennon out of Eulogy, the greatest tap-root in New Zealand. For 60 years every one of the sires and the mare to whom she traces have been sent out by the same firm to the same stud in New Zealand. I do not suppose that the buyer in any one case came to Britain to inspect or select the sires.
Until the Second World War no one would have doubted that England was the home of the thoroughbred, even though some of its most successful stallions were acquired for America, including the late Aga Khan's Bahram, Mahmood and Blenheim, all Derby winners. They joined brilliantly bred horses such as Lord Derby, Sicily, Pharos and Heliopolis.
After the war, when the strength of the dollar relative to the pound was much in favour of the Americans, there was a steady drift of top-class horses and mares to America. These, unfortunately for Britain, included Nasrullah, who though not a classic winner proved one of the greatest sires in history. With their considerable financial resources and intelligent breeding and mating arrangements, the Americans established a breed of racehorses second to none. At the same time other countries strove to fill the gaps left by the war years, and the Japanese when their economic miracle got going, were able to compete with all the best horses that the export trade will continue to flourish. It will be greatly to the advantage of racing and the pocket of owners if this does manage to provide a profitable outlet for some of the racemasters bred in Britain. Without its help it is difficult to see how racing can survive.

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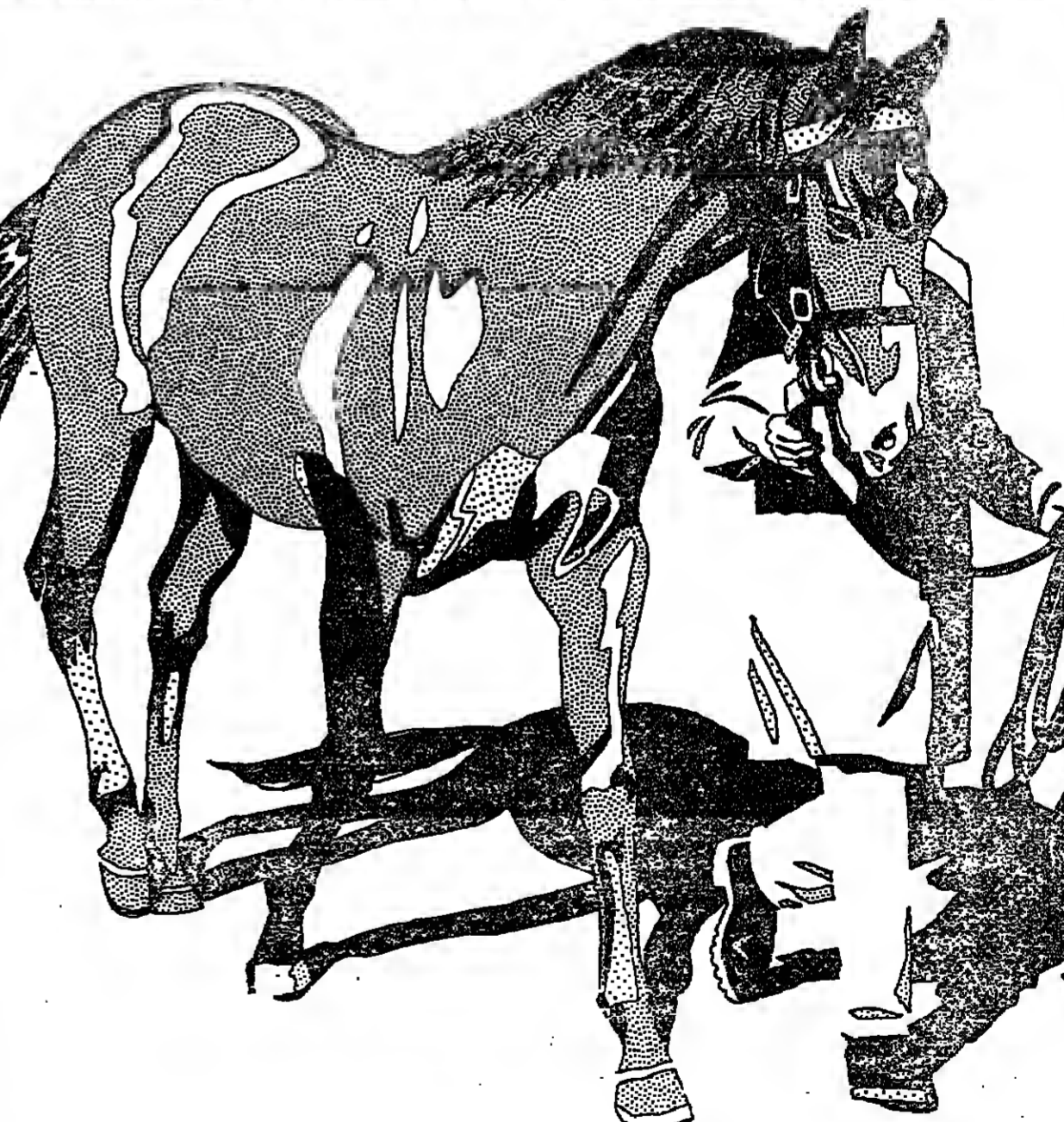
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Brough Scott talks to one of the most successful owners of recent times and Tony Sweeney interviews one of the most accomplished breeders More than just luck A bit of family breeding

Owners entering racing often seem like sheep on a nice spring day. They are comfortable for the moment but by the end of the season they will certainly have lost their fleeces and may well have ended up as mutton.

Charles St George, aged 48, the urbane chairman of Oakley Vaughan Insurance, is the most notable exception of recent times. For in the 20 years since he first became involved in racehorse ownership he has made racing pay to such an extent that without dipping deep into his own pocket he is now owner or part-owner of 43 horses which, if not in numbers, in influence is one of the most important holdings this side of the Atlantic this year.

Consequently he has for years been known as a lucky owner and has been regaled with the cliché that in the unlikely event of his ever falling down a sewer he would emerge as perfectly groomed as ever and smelling discreetly of roses.

His good fortune was never better demonstrated than in this year's 2,000 Guineas at Newmarket. Charles St George was a part-owner of the odds-on favourite, Apalachee, but while the rest of this colt's connections had to look on in stunned disappointment as all Lester Piggott's efforts could get the potential wonder horse into only third place, St George could take vast comfort that a length in front, in second position, was Giacomo in his own colours. The horse's sound performance on what was his first run of the season made him favourite to win the Derby.

Yet, typically, it was not only Giacomo, whom he half owns with Peter Richards the Oakley Vaughan bloodstock director, that strengthened the St George Derby prospects. For in the preceding eight days both Colonel Nelson, whom he wholly owns, and Apalachee's stable companion Callini, in whom he has the largest share, had scored authoritative wins to keep themselves in the Derby picture.

While a visit to either of the owners' homes at London or Newmarket would confirm an assumption of affluence, it would also dispel much of this element of luck. He talks smoothly but directly and has a habit of meeting your questions head on.

"It's not just a question of luck," he says. "It is having good advice and commo-

sense. Then it's like collecting stamps or pictures or gold coins, think of that; if you do it well you are bound to make money.

The ease with which that is said can make you forget the latest figures from the Racehorse Owners' Association—that only 5 per cent of the 11,000 registered owners make it pay, and that as their present mean estimate of £2,000 a horse St George's yearly running costs, with the equivalent of 32 full horses in training, is a sobering £64,000.

So the good advice looks even more vital, and he freely admits that his real luck was to get involved at an early age with a renowned judge of bloodstock, the late Bertie Kerr.

"From him I learnt about breeding and conformation, and about salvage value, because you know almost any well-bred animal has a value somewhere in the world."

The value of St George's equine empire would now be well into seven figures, and Callini cost \$240,000 as a yearling, but the big spending did not come until the system was generating its own money.

"Our first horse of any consequence, Primera, cost only £5,000 and we never really took off until Lorenzaccio, which cost only £2,000 but won £87,000 including the Chamotien Stakes and was syndicated for £320,000 guineas. Giacomo cost only 5,000 guineas but if, as you must, you are going for the top American blood it is bound to be expensive.

Personal involvement in the original selection of his horses has continued since Bertie Kerr's illness and death last year, and St George still buys all his own yearlings with the help of thoroughbred expert Michael Rogers.

Despite his affluent surroundings St George is not a loud public figure and he and Lester Piggott make a shrewd pair as they fit at the biggest prizes in Europe. Perhaps it is because of this uncompromising shrewdness that the racing establishment has been slow to accept him, and like millionaire owner David Robinson he is not a member of the ruling Jockey Club.

Although St George is no great spender for total change ("I think the Jockey Club run racing pretty well") it is to be hoped that his business acumen will soon be used by the racing authorities.

Most equine practices depend on sound support at the research level and it is here that the Equine Research Station, based in Newmarket, plays a vital role complementary to that of the practitioner.

The station was set up in 1946 and is one of two laboratories owned by the Animal Health Trust, it acts as a source of advice and knowledge of all kinds concerning the horse and its small clinical unit provides a hospital service to which animals are admitted if this is requested by the veterinary surgeon.

Clearly such an institution is required to be at the frontiers of research in equine medicine but, as Dr R. K. Archer, its director, explains, to plan this research it is imperative that the station knows the needs of the equine industry.

Close liaison is maintained with veterinarians in practice and with official bodies such as the British Equine Veterinary Association, the Horserace Betting Levy Board, the Hunters' Improvement Society, the Thoroughbred Breeders' Association and the Stewards of the Jockey Club. Dr Archer puts the cost of running the station at about £10,000 a year, with a staff of 80, including 15 graduate scientists, and acknowledges gratefully the support of the levy board,

breeder in Europe and a man with a worldwide influence on the pattern of bloodstock breeding.

One who would have shared his pleasurable surpris was Sir Winston Churchill to whom Tim had served as aide-de-camp on his wartime visits to the Italian front. Sir Winston himself became a racehorse owner after the war and had the good fortune to come up with two top-class performers, High Hat and Vienna. Tim adds to the store of Churchilliana the recollection of the afternoon that he went to see Sir Winston to buy High Hat from him. As he studied the cheque Sir Winston mused: "I never thought I would see the day when I would own a horse worth £100,000—or for that matter that you would have the money to pay for him."

After six years of managing Airlie, Tim had—in partnership with the British and Irish racing authorities—bought the stud from his father. That was to be the beginning of a huge programme of expansion, and he now has six farms in the counties of Dublin and Wiltshire totalling close on 2,000 acres. He owns, or is responsible for the management of, 16 stallions worth more than £6m, including Habitat, whose first crop of two-year-olds in 1972 included two Royal Ascot winners, Birty Girl and Habit, and set a record by winning more than £60,000.

Tim employs 100 people all the year round on his studs, where there is a breeding machine during the foaling season, from January until the end of May. This year 125 foals have already been born at his

stud farms and there are as many more expected.

To keep track of the many hundreds of visiting mares, yearlings and foals calls for organizational skill of a high order, and Tim has brought the techniques of modern big business to bear. All round the walls of his office are multicoloured record strips which enable him at a glance to tell any owner whether his mare has had a foal or if she has been successfully tested in foal.

He manages the mares for an international collection of millionaire owners who include Omar Sharif, Dr Heinrich Schmapka and Charles St George, but his main interest lies in the continuing search for potential stallions—for another Nearsco.

He admits that in this sphere High Hat was his biggest disappointment. "As the last top-class racing son of Hypocrite, I felt he had to be a success," he says, "and when he started off with two classic winners in his first crop I thought he had it made. However, he never got anything as good again and eventually I had to sell him."

Who asked to identify the one incident that more than any other helped to get him started, Tim refers rather surprisingly not to a stallion but to a broodmare, Discipline. "I went half shares in her for £1,000 at a time when that was real money to me," he says, "and at public auction we got over 100,000 guineas for her produce, which included the 2,000 Guineas winner, Marial. She gave me the basic capital with which to operate and to put into practice my philosophy that to succeed as a breeder one has to treat it as a business, not just a sporting enterprise."



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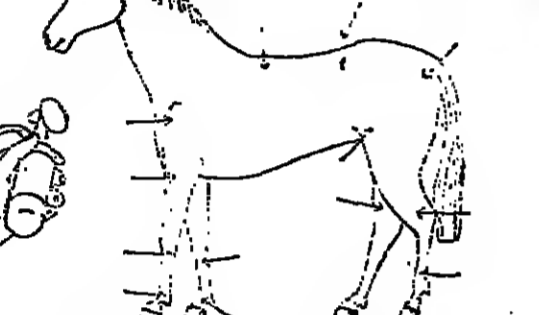
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Research station aids the vet

by Peter Wood

The contribution made by the veterinary profession to the maintenance of the horse—and thus the bloodstock industry—in a fit and sound condition is so fundamental that it is usually overlooked. The veterinarians engaged in equine practice usually has a vast range of responsibilities from the complex racing stables or stud with small or large fortunes tied up in stock to the needs of the owner of a small pony.

which provides about one third of the total.

Dr Archer considers the so-called distinction between basic and applied research as a difference, mainly of emphasis and objective. This is apparent in the studies being made into the blood groups of horses. In a research project undertaken for Weatherbys, about 800 thoroughbreds will have been classified by blood type by the end of the year and this will assist in their identification.

Research station aids the vet

which provides about one third of the total.

The cough has been with the racing world for a long time and its effects are well known. The station is studying the epidemiology of coughing among thoroughbreds in training, its association with the Animal Virus Research Institute at Pirbright, the Royal Veterinary College and the Lister Institute in London. Archer explains that if it was known how coughing spread it might be able to modify the present approach to the problem. Clearly, however, control measures cannot be usefully proposed until the method of spread is known.

In 1972 there was an exceptionally high incidence of coughing attributable to rhinopneumonitis virus and last year there was an outbreak of the AI or Prague type of equine influenza. Horses given influenza vaccination have apparently been well protected.

Perhaps the most overtly impressive advance in the equine sector recently is simply the fact that it is now possible to see through a horse. New X-ray equipment recently acquired by the station enables pictures to be taken of the thicker and formerly impenetrable parts of a horse, for example, the pelvis and hip joints.

Dr Archer and his colleagues are particularly impressed by the fact that the new machine permits certain

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Enquiries to David V. Dick, Aston Uphorpe Stud (Blewbury 338/300) or British Bloodstock Agency Ltd., 26 Charing Cross Road, London WC2R 0DJ (01-836 0461).

continued on facing page

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The Racehorse Owners' Association estimates that in 1973 the owners subsidised racing for about £10m. Why are the rewards are so meagre, are there more owners today than there have ever been?

It may be, especially under National Hunt Rules where the prizes are smaller and there are virtually no prospects of selling a horse for stud at enormous prices, the pure enjoyment of owning a horse, of the hope and expectations, and (just sometimes) of seeing it win. For others there may be the social prestige or the idea of betting on it, although those owners who imagine that ownership will give an automatic entry into the secrets of the trainer's other horses in the yard will soon be disillusioned.

Among the higher-income groups, especially in times of increasing government ravages on income and prospective wealth and gift taxes, there is also the considerable added incentive that racehorse ownership

can provide an entirely tax-free capital gain, something which is obtainable through virtually no other commodity.

The Inland Revenue will not allow racehorse ownership to be assessed as part of a business except in exceptional circumstances. At the introduction of capital gains tax, racehorses were a taxable item but it did not take long to discover that claims on capital losses, which could be put against other gains, greatly exceeded gains and they were excluded from the tax.

Let me give two examples of capital appreciation. In 1970 Sir John Thorn, head of the electrical business, bought his first yearling for 9,000 guineas. Named High Top, he won more than £53,000 in stakes in two seasons and was then sold as a stallion at a capital value of £336,000.

After his victory in the 1973 Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe, four-year-old Rheingold was sold at a capital value of £1m after earning £133,000. Three years earlier, Barry Hills, the trainer, had bought him for 3,000 guineas.

Alas, not all purchases work out as well. In October, 1971, the yearling colts were sold respectively for 117,000 guineas and 8,000 guineas. It was not until May 8 this year that Princely Review won his first race, worth £663, by two short heads,

while Bigivor has never won at all.

Having learnt a few of the pitfalls for the many and rewards for the few bow then do you become an owner?

The first decision is whether to own a flat race horse or a jumper, the first having the advantage for any "fairweather" sportsman that it will run during the summer while a sheepskin coat and woolly boots are more suitable for National Hunt racing. Two or three seasons will normally see a horse through a career on the flat but, if it seems sound and well, the jumper might be in training for double that time.

Almost all horse sales take place in the autumn, the largest proportion being devoted to yearlings, these being untried young horses in their second or third year. A choice has to be made solely on the breeding, conformation and what one can see of the movement of the horse at a walk and a trot.

The alternative is to buy a horse that has already raced, probably from one of the larger stables which has to be sold to make way for the incoming yearlings. If its potential may be easier to define, so, too, are its limitations. The Jockey Club allows up to four owners in one horse syndicate of up to 12.

The first obvious requirement is to find a trainer, but the new owner is unlikely to be able to send his horse to

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Lord Carbery... sport of kings is not only of the most expensive in the world; it is also the sport most open to chance and bad luck. The owner may pay £1,000 or £100,000 at yearling sales for a well-bred colt which could win the Derby, or just scrape home in a selling race. The trainer can see the horse in peak condition only to have him put out the race by a cough or eye injury.

When, then, the great day comes, the horse does not always run to form.

We all know to our cost, the price of everything depends on supply and demand, and the value of the racehorse has increased remarkably in recent years. This is only because there are people wishing to own horses at home, but also those who use the British thoroughbred as a means of investment, a few of the very rich, and is undoubtedly an exciting hobby; but to the city of owners, trainers and breeders, it is an investment which is unlikely to lose much in the way of capital, but has great potential for growth. Like all investments, it can also fall and this is where insurance has stepped in: to protect the owner against all the risks of investment, to ensure that his investment is not lost completely or depreciated.

It is not possible to cover every eventuality as the risks are legion and many can occur at any time; but it is, nevertheless, surprising how many risks it is possible for the owner to get protected against. We first consider the risk of training. The owner himself is the proud possessor of a racehorse at the fall of the hammer at one of the yearling sales, and from that moment his troubles begin. He soon finds that the initial cost of his purchase represents only a small part of the investment to which he is committed.

The owner depends on his horse winning races to see a return on his investment and the trainer's interests are identical, as not only does his reputation depend on the success of the horses under his care, but also he must feel under a moral obligation to justify the large training fees he is obliged to charge so that at least his owners feel they have had a run for their money.

All his efforts could be in vain if the horse falls ill, meets with an accident while exercising on the downs or is cast in the box on the way to the racecourse. It is, therefore, in the interests of both the owner and the trainer to insure their horses and most trainers today insist that their owners do this, or allow them to see to it on their behalf, before they will take the horse to the stable.

The primary risk, from which all owners must seek protection is the death of their horse from any cause, usually referred to as "all risks of mortality". If a horse dies, the owner is saying goodbye to all the money he has paid out for that horse. This is why the sum insured must be kept constantly under review, increased with every race won and reduced after continuing failure.

The rates charged by insurance companies and underwriters for all risks of mortality is based on their loss experience and the purpose for which the horse is kept—breeding, flat racing, hunting, or steeplechasing. It is

for this reason that not all underwriters offer the same rates and the owner would be well advised to consult a firm of brokers specializing in bloodstock who can shop around for the most attractive rates on offer.

Generally, premium rates for horses at stud and flat racers vary between 24 per cent and 24 per cent, for broodmares 54 per cent to 64 per cent, and for steeplechasers 9 per cent to 124 per cent. Although in the past, underwriters have been inclined to quote lower rates where numbers of horses are being insured simultaneously, they are now moving away from this as of course the risk is the same for each horse whether he is in a large or small stable.

Instead, they sometimes offer a profit participation on the insurance of large strings of racehorses. This can be like a no-claim bonus on a motor policy—if there is no claim in the first year, the renewal premium in the second year is reduced by about 5 per cent and perhaps more in the ensuing years. Sometimes an actual percentage of the profit, if any, in the second year is credited to the insured's account.

Some owners have said they cannot afford to insure at these rates and, if that is the case, they cannot afford to own a horse. Since the rates are based on claims experience, and many is the underwriter who has made a loss on bloodstock, often in successive years, then the rates quoted must bear a close relation to the odds on a particular horse coming to the stable.

It is not possible to recompense owners for their personal loss when a horse dies for which they have a great affection and debt of gratitude, but only the multi-millionaire can regard the financial loss with equanimity when there is no compensation. It is therefore quite incredible that less than half the owners of bloodstock in Britain are adequately insured.

Besides the essential cover of "all risks of mortality" there are many other risks for which the wiser owners do effect cover: permanent incapacity insurance is becoming daily more popular as a horse may not die or have to be put down for humane reasons, but can still be so badly injured or stricken with a disease that it can never recover or at stud.

Such horses can often still be used as hacks, hunters or show jumpers although, of course, their value falls considerably and it is both heartless and unnecessary that such horses should be put down so that the owner can claim on his insurance—what was once referred to as economic slaughter.

Many companies insuring bloodstock offer permanent incapacity insurance. Premium rates for all risks of mortality with permanent incapacity vary from 4 per cent to 14 per cent according to the horse's age, sex and use. Loss by theft of straying and third party indemnity up to £100,000 an incident is usually included in these more comprehensive policies.

Since the passing of the Animal Act in October, 1971, owners are now legally liable for personal injuries to members of the public and property damage caused by horses belonging to them. Property damage includes damage to cars by an excitable horse on the road, or passing parked cars, and a number of large claims have already been upheld in the courts. It is not surprising that more and more owners are taking out comprehensive policies.

Most owners will admit that it is unlikely that they will make money or even cover their costs on the racecourse, as there are only a few major races with prize money sufficient to ensure this, and we all know that few make money betting or makers. The big money is made when a colt or filly has

shown its form on the racecourse and goes to stud.

Not surprisingly the risks increase in proportion to the rewards. A stallion can prove congenitally infertile or impotent. One well-known stallion, which was syndicated in the United States for \$3.5m, recently failed his fertility tests and there is no certainty that he will ever come right.

To protect the investor shares in most syndicated stallions are now sold subject to the passing of fertility tests but, even so, a chance accident after he has gone to stud can affect his performance. Naturally the better studs take the greatest care of a valuable stallion, but there are unforeseen occurrences—his first mares may scorn his attentions and kick out, or another stallion standing at the same stable may injure him. Therefore, insurance against accidental infertility or impotence is essential.

What he pays for the protection of that investment is a small part of his costs and yet the most important part, since everything depends on the welfare of the horse.

The author is a director of The Equine and Bloodstock Insurance Company.

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Research station's aid

continued from facing page

surgeon can work in small cavities and round corners.

Dr Archer makes the point that without the active participation of veterinarians in practice much of the basic labour of data collecting and surveying would be pointless. A case referred to the station was usually accompanied by relevant questions.

Veterinarians in practice are advancing research here by asking intelligent questions", Dr Archer says. Advances can also be the result of the practitioner's own research interests, of course, or can develop out of routine practice as in the case of recent work in orthopaedics.

The liaison between the practising section and the research section of equine medicine means that the intelligent practitioner can offer his clients a better service than ever before.

The Station carries on the steady and unpretentious research that rarely inspires the headline writer—work on wobbler disease, ringworm and the way ringworm spreads, chronic back pain, cleft palate surgery, the passive transfer of immunity to foals with the assistance of local veterinary surgeons) and much else.

There are also what may be termed the general background problems of the equine industry which the station has to keep under review, such as the steady spread of rabies westward towards Paris and the decisions that will have to be taken if the situation deteriorates.

Finance is the limiting factor in any discussion of research and research in the veterinary sector depends particularly on limited funds. Dr Archer defines the role of ERS as the benefit of horses and their owners through the advice and information given to practising veterinarians, surgeons, and adds that if the research commitment is to grow then the station must depend on the horse-owning public to provide the financial means.

RECORD YEAR

for British horses abroad

British-bred and conceived horses again enjoyed a record year of successes in foreign countries in 1973, winning a total of 3,804 races worth £5,166,724. In addition, the sires and dams of many other winners abroad were bred in Britain.

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Tattersalls sales remain the most important single source of winners at home and abroad.

These are the sales dates in 1974 (subject to alteration)

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OCTOBER 15-19 Houghton Yearling Sales

OCTOBER 28-31 Autumn Sales of Horses in Training and Mixed Sales

NOVEMBER 1-2 Autumn Yearling Sales

NOVEMBER 28-30, DECEMBER 2-6 December Sales

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America agrees to EEC's tariff compensations for enlargement of Community

On Roger Berthoud... The spectre of an imminent... The United States was finally... America agrees to EEC's tariff compensations for enlargement of Community

Minister will be offered few retail price cuts

By Hugh Clayton... Food retailers will tell the Government on Monday that they cannot guarantee to cut prices permanently on even 15 of the products it proposed last month.

Property fears fuel continued slide in equities

By Terry Byland... Equities suffered a further round of losses on the London stock market yesterday. Nervous selling from smaller investors pushed market indices down to within 5 per cent of the previous low point for the year.

Boost for Nixon trade reform Bill

Our United States... President Nixon said today at the tariff reductions... Boost for Nixon trade reform Bill

Franklin to examine Bank of New York

A group of 11 New York banks has begun examining operations of the troubled Franklin National Bank to determine what steps are necessary to strengthen its earnings position.

Moratorium plea for Lyon Group

By Anthony Rowley... Unsecured creditors of the Lyon Group are being recommended to accept a moratorium on payment of the debts owed to them by the property concern.

Nestlé aims to take full control of Findus UK

By Maurice Corina... Nestlé is considering whether to give approval to the sale by J. Lyons & Co of its joint interests in the Findus frozen foods business to Nestlé.

Finance House rate falls 1 1/2pc

The Finance House base rate will fall to 13 1/2 per cent today. The rate is calculated on average interbank rates and adjusted automatically.

Oncassis threat to Olympic Airways contract

From Frank Vogl... An international agreement may develop from the continuing financial troubles of Trans World Airlines and Pan American Airlines.

US airlines' troubles may lead to world clash

From Frank Vogl... The trade-off talks are getting bogged down in detail and may take weeks or even months. The CAB has set June 5 as the date for the talks to end.

BLMC plans car factory in Midlands with 5,000 jobs

By Clifford Webb... British Leyland has submitted an application to the Department of Industry for permission to build a new car plant at Moon's Moat, a 100-acre site at Redditch near town.

Russia selling oil to Japan, Tass says

Moscow, May 31.—The Soviet Union is now delivering oil to Japan, Tass news agency said. It indicated that there are greater possibilities for future oil deliveries.

Plans for steel 'will mean 100,000 jobs'

More than 100,000 jobs will be created by reductions in the British Steel Corporation's 10-year strategy is carried out, delegates at the Boiler-makers' Shipwrights conference in Scarborough were told yesterday.

IMF chief in talks

Mr Johannes Witteveen, managing director of the International Monetary Fund, met Herr Hans Apel, West Germany's new Finance Minister, for talks on the role of the fund in financing payments deficit arising from the increase in oil prices, the Finance Ministry said.

Wearside shipping boost

Further orders for the highly successful Liberty replacement ship, the SD14, designed by Wearside shipbuilders Ausin & Pickersall were announced yesterday. Four of the ships are to be built for the Empresa Navagacion Mambisa Cuban State shipping company, at an estimated cost of £16m.

VW cleared of charge

The Volkswagenwerk was cleared of all suspicion of having misused its dominating position in the automobile market by unjustified price increases, writes Gretel Spitzer from Berlin. Yesterday the spokesman for the Federal Cartel Office in Berlin, Herr Jörg Schlegel, said that the procedure against VW on this matter, started on May 10, had been dropped.

Co-op business up

Sales of Britain's 239 retail Co-operative societies rose 11.8 per cent in 1973 to £1,450m according to returns just released by the Co-operative Union. The share of national retail trade is put at 7.1 per cent.

Butlin's surcharge

The Price Commission has allowed Butlin's to charge a flat-rate surcharge on all holidays except those lasting for a week-end or less. The surcharge will be £1.50 a week for each adult on an all-in holiday and £5 a week for a self-catering suite.

Vickers loses contract

Vickers said last night that it was "very disappointed" at reports that its Canadian subsidiary had lost a \$118m (about £49m) contract for which it had tendered the lowest bid. The contract, for 422 cars for the Montreal subway system, has gone to Bombardier, a snowmobile manufacturer whose bid was \$136,000 higher than that submitted by Canadian Vickers.

New chemicals group

The establishment of a new joint company in Spain between the German group Farberwerk Hoechst and the Spanish chemicals group, Union Explosivos Rio Tinto (ERT), was announced yesterday.

Strike talks fail

The unofficial strike of more than 300 construction men which is delaying work on the Mersey underground loop rail line beneath central Liverpool continued into its seventh week following the breakdown of joint talks which went on for four hours in the city yesterday.

Ignor Carli sees gold dealings between banks as answer to Italy's problems

John Earle... Ignor Carli, Governor of the Bank of Italy, said today Italy's solvency would be aided if gold could be traded between central banks at market-related prices.

\$262m cut in Japanese payments deficit

Tokyo, May 31.—Japan's balance of payments in April continued to show improvement, mainly caused by a decline in capital exports, the finance ministry said.

How the markets moved

Table with columns: Rises, Falls, and various stock market indices like Progressive Sec, Phillips Lamp, etc.

The Times index: 110.56 - 2.28 F.T. index: 276.3 - 5.7

THE POUND

Table with columns: Bank, Bank, and various exchange rates for Australia, Austria, Belgium, etc.

On other pages

Bank Base Rates Table

Unit Trusts: Lawson Gilt and Warrant Fund

Reports, page 26

PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

Grouse

If you buy a house with a conventional repayment mortgage rather than with an endowment mortgage it is vital that you take out some form of mortgage protection policy which will repay the outstanding capital owed in the event of an untimely death.

A mortgage protection policy is basically decreasing term assurance; for a regular annual premium a sum assured is arranged which decreases in value in line with the reduction in the mortgage debt.

Provided the policy is arranged so that the premiums are paid annually (or more frequently still if that is required) there are no problems. The drawbacks arise when mortgagors decide to pay for the entire cost of their mortgage protection policy in a lump sum at the beginning of the period.

Building societies naturally have a vested interest in borrowers taking out a mortgage protection policy. The single premium type of policy has been and still is with many societies the favourite arrangement they recommend to prospective housebuyers—and the majority of housebuyers will usually accept this advice on the assumption that the society knows best.

However, there are strong arguments against this policy and the annual premium type scheme represents a much better buy. It is, to the first place, a far more flexible type of policy; it can be discontinued easily in the event of changing houses; it can be more easily adapted to fit in with interest rate changes (which affect the outstanding mortgage balance); the relief is spread over the years of the policy; and other benefits, such as family income benefits, can be built on to it.

The final point is that, in the event of an early death, one has only paid premiums for a few years—whereas with a lump sum policy the premiums have been paid for the entire term, in most cases at least 25 years.

So why do some societies continue to recommend the lump sum arrangements? Admittedly the lump sum rate works out cheaper over a full term, but this is not sufficient to overcome its other drawbacks. On the other hand, societies do receive higher insurance commissions from these schemes.



...and you have the gall to charge me £19.47 for lending you an average of £15.82 since July last.

How to handle your banker

In the past I have made mention of the way the Moneygamesman skillfully manipulates his banking affairs to impress everybody not least his own bank manager. However, having given you only a glimpse so far, I think it is only fair that the full splendour of his technique should now be revealed.

His first rule is, of course, that the reason one needs a bank manager at all is to borrow money from him, rather than lend it to him. It is important that this is brought unmistakably to the attention of the manager himself.

If your account is generally in credit what you must do, then, is to plague him about the size, and indeed the actual existence of the bank charges he levies on you. You've just made annual profits of £36m and you have the gall to charge me £19.47 for lending you an average of £15.82 since July last.

The way the competition is biting up at the moment, this (the Drop in the Bucket Conscience Galvaniser) is an effective opening attack. It is not the other hand, you would rather a borrower than a lender be, then you must follow the Moneygamesman in his escape from the suppliant position of the potential debtor. So soften up the resistance by complaining about the accuracy of statements and/or the non-delivery of the actual cheques you had signed (The Electronic Data Protogonism). Statistics show that there is something wrong with the bank's computerised statements and, if you just pick a card, any card, you are likely to come up with a complaint.

For example, only last month I found that they had credited me for a day with a little matter of £200,000. Yes, boastfully, I didn't get any interest out of it, of course, but bad I mistakenly been debited with a similar amount I wouldn't have been surprised to have been charged it. A bank manager at the time and it immediately made him placatory and embarrassed.

Hard on the heels of this, call peremptorily for the bank's statement and, if it should be hanging up fresh and new every January 1 and July 1 of each year, this is a trick especially worth doing on January 2 and July 2. The odds are that you will get shown the one for the previous half year because they will not have brought it up to date, and it so it is definitely cause for the raised eyebrow and the discreet cough.

With a hit of luck the manager will be ready to pander to your merest whim by this stage, but once you start on about actually borrowing money you may find the atmosphere barden up a bit, especially if there is no security, as there never is. It is therefore as well to have some proof that you have tried other alternatives first.

My own early and continuing success with the manager of the National Westminster Bank, Baker Street, largely derived from the fact that I explained quite truthfully that before coming to see him for an overdraft, I had been to St Georges Hospital in an attempt to pawn my body for £25, so that it could be used for the benefit of medical science should I turn my toes up a bit earlier in the proceedings than anticipated. (Burke and Hare's Auto-liquidation.)

The attempt at that particular transaction had the elements of failure programmed into it right from the start. It was in 1951 and I was 17. I had already sold my stamp collection for far less than it was worth—and my body, though a poor thing, was all there was left in the kitty.

But even a buyer's market would have been better than no market at all, because when I presented myself at St Georges to the Sergeant on the door and explained the matter, he replied, "Ho, no, we don't do that sort of thing anymore. Ho, no, since the National Health."

Nowadays anyhow, what with the press and the Money Program and everybody at every cocktail party you hear of people mourning about the banks and their profits and their inefficiency, getting the manager to feel all guilty and bunted is as easy as taking sweets from a baby, and one need not go to quite such extreme lengths.

But in another sense, the heat is on more than ever now. Whoever you do go into a bank without a stocking over your face these days, you come out, not only with actual cash, but with the Manager's bit of life assurance, a new seal and a fluster of trading stamps into the bargain.

Francis Kinsman

Unit trust performance

UNIT TRUSTS: Medium and Income Funds (progress this year and in past three years). Unit Trust Index 1952=100, fell from January 1, 1974:

Target Glenmore	4.1	20.2	Glen Fund	-3.6	-24.8
Brown Shipley	7.9	2.8	British Life	-3.9	-16.7
National	10.1	1.2	L. & C. Tyndall	-4.4	-15.2
Archway Capital	3.0	-16.8	Buckingham	-4.5	-9.3
Procedural	3.9	-1.2	Vanguard Inc	-4.6	-19.1
Nielworth Bondco	1.8	-5.7	National Inv Gen	-4.8	-13.8
National Com	0.5	-	Merilyn Blue Chip	-5.1	-12.0
M & G General	1.2	8.9	Elect & Ind	-5.3	-8.6
M & G Sae General	0.6	16.0	Lloyds Bank Sec	-5.6	-17.4
Quadrant	-0.3	-7.1	Hill Samuel Cap	-6.0	-7.1
National Securities	-0.6	-	Mutual Sec Plus	-6.0	-12.3
Central British	-1.3	-20.4	National Group	-6.0	-15.3
BL Balanced	-1.4	-4.9	Hamro Fund	-6.2	-4.0
Lloyds Life Equity	-1.8	-13.1	Family Fund	-6.2	-7.5
Jacot Sector Ldrs	-2.2	-	Discretionary	-6.3	-7.3
Clemco	-2.5	-	Edi Samuel Sec	-6.4	-15.4
National Inv 2nd Gen	-2.4	2.6	Pelican	-6.5	5.2
Vielder Growth	-2.7	-	Morgan Grenfer Ins	-6.7	-9.6
National D	-3.2	-20.9	National Hundred	-6.7	-0.5
Target Professional	-3.2	-			
Carliff Central	-3.5	3.8			

Family pay check for wives

Why are women so woefully ignorant about family finances in general and their own finances in particular? A recent survey conducted by Gallup Poll on behalf of the Company, Pensions Information Centre came to the dismal conclusion that most women are not interested in what financial arrangements their husbands have made for their retirement and at death.

The findings to some extent contradict the impression I gain from readers' letters arising out of articles on the Personal Investment and Finance pages: a rough calculation shows that well over half the letters I receive asking for further financial advice or information do come from women.

However, these readers are clearly in a minority. For the Gallup Poll survey disclosed that more than half of Britain's wives have never discussed with their husbands what the family financial position will be when he retires or at that just over half the women interviewed had discussed with their husband what their financial position would be should he die.

If it comes to that, the women interviewed were equally ignorant about their own pension arrangements and prospects if they continued working to retirement. (The survey was conducted by Mrs Barbara Castle announced that the State Reserve Pension scheme set up under the Social Security Act, 1973, was not to come into operation after all.) The staggering statistic here was that only 2 per cent of the women had a precise idea of what their pension entitlement would have been.

But, when all is said and done, pension schemes are the most difficult of subjects to

Whist... there may possibly be a resistance on the part of the husband to reveal his financial situation to his wife. It is she who is expected to keep up the family standard of living when her husband retires and it is she who has to "hold the purse strings" should she be widowed.

master and it would have been interesting to see how many of these women's prospective husbands understood their own or their wives' pension schemes. I would not be surprised if a similar lack of knowledge had been uncovered.

What do find shocking, however, is that there are still so many women in the country who do not have a precise understanding of how much their husbands earn. The survey shows that less than half married women (49 per cent) know precisely how much their husbands earn. Wives in higher income groups are slightly more aware and so are northern wives. And it is encouraging that more young wives (55 per cent) know what the family income is.

As the company Pensions Information Centre reports, the results of this survey are not heartening. Acknowledging that there may possibly be resistance on the part of the husband to reveal his financial situation to his wife, the Centre points out, "it is she who is expected to keep up the family standard of living when her husband retires and it is she who has to 'hold the purse strings', should she be widowed."

Financial planning should be, I believe, a family activity but it clearly isn't at the moment. So, with the help of two financial planning consultants—one a married woman—I have drawn up a list of questions as a starting point for wives who

unlike the employed person who does at least have a pension scheme, however inadequate it may be.

Under a separate sub-heading comes the question: what provision does your pension scheme make for widows? Women still tend to live longer than men, but there are also pension schemes which do not provide adequate widow's benefits. So find out what your income is going to be on your husband's death.

And on the same theme check into that some of his insurances are payable immediately on death: it's galling to know that a large sum of money intended for you is tied up at a time when you might urgently need it.

The final major question relates to your husband's debts. The most important of these is likely to be the house mortgage which is probably—at least it ought to be—covered by insurance and therefore presents no problem. But there are other debts: hire purchase arrangements on a car and bank overdraft to mention the two commonest. These will have to be repaid out of the estate in the event of your husband's death.

Most of these questions contain intimations of mortality—which is, of course, one of the reasons why both husbands and wives prefer to skirt around the issues of family financial planning. However, the minor pleasures of sitting around the table and talking about retirement and death now is soothing, compared to the unpleasantness of meeting both in a state of unpreparedness.

Margaret Stone



Barbara Castle

The options open to Mrs Castle

When Mrs Barbara Castle issues her White Paper setting out proposals for the future of state pensions (and perhaps, by implication, occupational pensions), the resurrection of the Crossman scheme, to which I referred in my last article, is by no means the only course open to her.

If something is to be done quickly, there are two possible courses: either to use work which has already been started; or to introduce a structure so simple that very little work is necessary. One possibility being examined is to abandon the whole concept of an earnings-related structure imposed by the state, and to concentrate efforts on raising the level of the flat rate pension to—ultimately—something like half national average earnings, which means at the present time about £20 a week or more.

This certainly represents a structure which could be implemented without delay, although the level would have to be increased by stages to half national average earnings—economic considerations would make it impossible to achieve the full level at once. It also has a number of other attractions, either from the point of view of a Socialist government, or objectively from the point of view of those intended to benefit—as we all are, indeed, ultimately.

Possibly the most interesting aspect, however, is the way this proposal illustrates the change in political philosophies since the war. It is said that the idea has union support; it represents an application of the Marxist principle of providing according to needs (assuming that everyone's basic needs are alike) and collecting according to ability to pay.

The principle of payment according to ability to pay—contributions—linked to pay—was introduced by Sir Keith Joseph under the last government. The principle of a flat rate pension, and that the state's responsibility was to provide for everyone's basic needs, originated with the Conservative Government of the 1940s; the idea of national earnings-related pensions was attributed particularly to Mr Richard Crossman, the previous Labour Secretary of State for the Social Services.

Whether it represents a socialist move or not, the introduction of a higher level of flat rate pension, without an earnings-related element but paid for by earnings-related contributions, has attractions. Most important, it would solve once and for all, this problem of elderly people without enough money to live on. It would not guarantee that pensioners could continue to enjoy the standard of living they had attained during their working lifetimes.

Eric Brut

Motor insurance VAT and your car repairs

Despite the fact that we have had VAT with us for some time, there are still plenty of points not fully appreciated about it—in some cases by those dealing with it every day.

The whole aim of this tax was that it should be much more broadly based than the excise and thus should apply to most forms of services as well as goods. Also, instead of being a tax on the supplier of goods or services, it is paid by the purchaser and is merely collected for by Customs and Excise on a person providing the goods or service.

Clearly, therefore, all garage and repair charges (other than for fuel, most of which is taxed heavily enough as it is) have VAT added to them. If one is having a normal service, clearly one has to pay the VAT on top of the garage's charge. What, however, is the position if repairs will be paid for by an insurance company?

In the first place, the insurers will want to establish whether one is a taxable person or not—since this can make a difference to the amount which they pay out.

If a vehicle is used wholly or partly in connection with a business which is taxable for VAT, the practical effect is that the owner can include the tax charged by the garage with other "input" tax. This, therefore, can either be set off against output tax which will be payable to Customs and Excise or (for those whose supplies are largely or exclusively zero-rated) a refund can be collected from the Customs and Excise.

In this situation, therefore, the owner pays the VAT initially but a full recovery can be made under the VAT system, and the insurers simply settle the repair account, exclusive of VAT. There are special forms for this purpose and so far the procedure is running fairly smoothly.

Anybody running a car in a sole private capacity is exempt. This simply means that VAT does not have to be collected. But VAT does have to be paid on the purchase of goods and services, and there is no means of recovering it.

If, therefore, one is exempt from VAT (insurers will simply settle the whole of the account, including the VAT. And, because insurance, also, is exempt, they will not be able to recover the VAT in any way apart from increasing premiums).

A more complicated situation arises in the case of anyone with a car who carries out a partially exempt business at the time of the accident.

A partially exempt trader has some output which is taxable and some which is exempt, and he can recover VAT paid out in respect of that but not the latter. It may be that, for the purposes of recovering VAT expenditure is divided between the type of business which is "taxable" and that which is "exempt" and the VAT in respect of an account for repairs can be recovered if the car was being used for taxable business, but not for exempt business.

John Drummond

Taxation: capital gains Inland Revenue's softer side

Despite moves in the last few years toward tax simplification, the law itself continues to be so complex it is little wonder that inequities and hardship frequently arise.

To be fair, the Inland Revenue is not entirely unaware of these problems and from time to time it issues statements on the consequential way it will interpret certain aspects of the law. Capital gains tax regulations with regard to private residences.

We saw in the last article in this series that, to come within the exemption, an individual's house must at some time during the period of ownership have been his only or main residence. If this rule were strictly applied it would create rather drastic anomalies. Those whose cause of the duties of their employment, have no option but to live on their business premises.

Such a person may have bought a house in anticipation of retirement, for example, but that house is given relief if it does not, on the face of it, qualify for exemption. Fortunately there is a concession here which extends the exemption to those living in tied accommodation such as the schoolmasters, caretakers and the like.

If the gain on a sale is to be fully exempt the house must have been the individual's only or main residence during the whole period of ownership. The law allows the last 12 months of ownership to be treated as a period of occupation, whether or not the owner was resident, but it says nothing about occupation in the early months of ownership.

However, the Inland Revenue takes a conciliatory view in the following way. Where an individual acquires land and has a house built on it, and he thereupon goes into occupation of the house as his only or main residence, the period of occupation of the house does not exceed a year (or somewhat longer if there are good reasons for exceptional delay) the Inland Revenue will regard that period as part of his period of occupation of the house as his only or main residence within the terms of the exemption.

The same principle will be applied where an individual purchases an existing house and before moving into occupation as his sole or main residence arranges for alterations or decorations or completes the necessary steps for disposing of his previous residence. This 12 month's grace is particularly relevant when the house market has fallen and the individual has difficulty in disposing of his original house.

Verá Di Palma

Round-up New fashion for American funds

Following the launch last week of Slater, Walker's North American unit trust, Barclays Unicorn is also going west with its 14th new unit trust, the Unicorn American Bond Fund. The fund is managed by the product manager, Mr R. J. R. (Bill) Greenfield, who has a long track record in the securities and an active dealing policy. (The portfolio will concentrate initially on industrial and consumer stocks.) It is interesting to note, however, that its starting yield is an estimated 3.5 per cent compared with SW North American's 2.5 per cent.

The new 91 per cent British Savings Bond, announced in the Budget, goes on sale on Monday. After five years there is a 3 per cent tax free bonus providing for 10.6 per cent if the bonds are held for the full five years.

Following the present Charterhouse Life Assurance introduced a Convertible Bond. The bond is linked to the Energy Board and invests in the option of switching into the Charterhouse funds. The Equity and Managed Funds

Allied Growth & Inc	-7.0	-10.9	H & P General	-11.5	-15.5
Abacus Gieats	-7.0	-9.3	Bank of America	-11.6	-25.3
Portfolico Gr & Inc	-7.0	-9.3	Nicorin Capital	-11.7	-24.5
Energy & Law	-7.5	-13.4	Schroder General	-12.3	-26.2
Allied Capital	-7.7	-13.7	Oceanic General	-12.4	-25.9
Natl Inv Growth	-7.9	-6.8	Friends Provident	-12.6	-24.9
National Scot-Unit	-5.1	-2.6	Emblem	-12.6	-24.9
Profitec	-5.1	-9.4	Prudential	-12.8	-7.5
Franchising Cap	-5.1	-16.2	Abey General	-13.1	-16.2
M & G Trustee	-3.3	-4.1	Stronghold Priority	-13.1	-22.1
Minster	-8.3	-17.3	Lloyds Bank First	-13.2	-18.6
Barbican	-8.3	-15.6	Tyndall Canvase	-13.3	-12.2
Nat'l P Ebor Gen	-8.3	-16.0	Wicklow Select Inc	-13.7	-16.7
ETF	-5.5	-4.3	Gardhill	-13.9	-22.2
Target Equity	-3.5	-6.7	M & G Mid & Gen	-14.5	-11.7
Target Eight	-3.5	-6.7	Jesse New Inv	-15.6	-15.2
Target Inside	-3.8	-11.3	Great Wintoner	-14.8	-15.2
C & A	-3.9	-13.7	Jeffer Consumer	-15.0	-20.3
Unicorn General	-3.9	-12.9	Enlight Prop	-16.3	-9.5
Pearl Invest	-4.0	-11.8	Nicolas Domestic	-16.3	-20.3
S & P Scopenses	-4.6	-10.8	Trades Union	-16.9	-20.3
Jesse General	-10.7	-8.3	Oceanic Growth	-21.0	-28.0
Unicorn '300'	-10.9	-9.4			
Unicorn Trustee	-11.4	-13.8			
Nelstor	-11.4	-17.3			
Trustee Sav Banks	-11.4	-17.3			
Private Portfolio	-11.5	-			
INCOME					
Merlin High Yield	9.5	-			
Schroder Income	5.2	-12.1			
Archway Income	4.4	6.0			

EDITED BY MARGARET STONE

Investor's week

More rumours • The property sector in turmoil

Jim Slater's unwillingness to his money into equities just recently coincided with views of a host of other investors. With the slow to return to work last after the Whitson break, market turnover has fallen to yet more dismal levels. However, even in its apathy, market remains selective. The past fortnight, it has moved with something watching equity activity the close of the Northern Ireland, with excellent trading from major companies, a improvement in the United States non-oil trade deficit, a substantial upgrading of the North Sea potential. Friday afternoon saw prices suddenly weakening after renewed fears about property sector. The small share should take heed. While may be scope for a sharp drop if the selling is over, or even the big institutions are selective, property shares have not drawn comfort over the last week.



Commercial Union's head office in the City

property shares have not drawn comfort over the last week. The Government's announcement on the future of control. In a sense that is arising. Few would have expected the Labour Government to go half way to meet the bankers and property men by edging up its statement on this. Yet that is precisely what opened up if the response is not been totally euphoric, it is not the fault of a financially illiterate Labour Administration. That the Government has done is to concede an important part of the property market and entirely in May 1976. A year's transitional period of much rent reviews and reversals will be permitted to rise to 1977 levels. But it also denied the property a statement about the conditions. The Chancellor, Mr. May, made it clear in his Budget that he regarded the tax on realized development gains as adequate to cope with the surplus that have been up in the market. So no uncertainty remains the possibility that the development gains tax may be extended to investment property. The institutions which play the key role in the property market, the hedge funds, and the off in 1976 provides some assurance. They can now do sums on individual projects in a way that was possible before the announce-

ment, although some allowance must still be made for any further fiscal action. But that alone is not enough to set the market alight. For a start, the institutions have learned that property is a political market and that Governments, if need be, can change their policies. More important in the short term, however, is the crisis of liquidity in the property sector. As a result of the secondary banking crisis many banks are now urgently seeking ways of calling in advances secured on property. If they press some of their weaker clients hard, there is a possibility that forced sales will be required. The institutions will take a sanguine view of property now if it believes that property will be available more cheaply than a number of companies have gone to the wall.

So far the liquidity crisis has been contained. The Lyons Group, the private industrial development concern controlled until recently by Mr. Ronald Lyons, is now in the hands of an administrator who will ensure that developments are completed before they are sold to satisfy the demands of the group's creditors. This solution to liquidity problems can foster an orderly realization of property which avoids the problem of forced sales.

FINANCIAL NEWS

Share reorganization at James Finlay after record £2.6m

By David Morrison
Strong all-round organic growth has helped James Finlay to a record year. Profit last year soared from just over £1m to £2.6m.
For 1972 the group reported a decline of 14 per cent, but by the middle of 1973 this had been reversed to an advance of 75 per cent. The shares closed 4p higher at 37.4p.
Now the company plans a major reshaping which will improve marketability, a 50 per cent scrip being coupled with the sub-division of the existing £1 shares into units of 50p. The total dividend for last year is raised from 14.7p to 15.43p.
The company, whose interests take in commodity trading (mainly tea), industry, merchant banking and other financial activities, emphasizes the all-round nature of its performance, and one feature is typical in the early part of the year, before the bear market really started.

Bowater-B & C Shipping expand finance interests

Bowater Corporation and the British Commonwealth Shipping Company announced yesterday that they intend to expand their joint financial activities via the banking company, St Mary's Axze Finance and Investment, which is an associated company of British & Commonwealth. The new company will acquire 75 per cent of Bowater's own 75 per cent holding in Banque de Rive of Geneva, St Mary's Axze Finance and Investment, which is an associated company of British & Commonwealth. The new company will acquire 75 per cent of Bowater's own 75 per cent holding in Banque de Rive of Geneva, St Mary's Axze Finance and Investment, which is an associated company of British & Commonwealth.

Ready Mixed Concrete
Production in the Ready Mixed Concrete Group in the first four months was below the comparable period of 1973. Mr. K. Camden told the annual meeting. This was because of the housing market decline and the effect of inflation on overheads were blamed for a £345,000 loss. Major losses were incurred in France and also in three United Kingdom units, aggravated by the failure of some main contractors. But things were expected for 1974, with the value of unfinished orders high.

Wall Street

New York, May 31.—Shares on the New York Stock Exchange closed narrowly lower today with brokers reporting disappointment that interest rates are apparently moving to rise. The Dow Jones Industrial Average fell by 1.41 points to 802.7. Volume totalled 10,810,000 shares, compared with 13,580,000 shares on Thursday.

May 31	May 30	May 31	May 30	May 31	May 30
Allied Chem.	40 1/2	40 1/4	Gen. Electric	49 3/4	49 1/2
Allied Chem. Ind.	40 1/2	40 1/4	Gen. Foods	10 1/2	10 1/4
Allied Chem. Corp.	40 1/2	40 1/4	Gen. Foods	10 1/2	10 1/4
Allied Chem. Ind.	40 1/2	40 1/4	Gen. Foods	10 1/2	10 1/4
Allied Chem. Corp.	40 1/2	40 1/4	Gen. Foods	10 1/2	10 1/4

May 31	May 30	May 31	May 30	
Am. Standard	14 3/8	14 1/8	Gen. Foods	10 1/2
Am. Standard	14 3/8	14 1/8	Gen. Foods	10 1/2
Am. Standard	14 3/8	14 1/8	Gen. Foods	10 1/2
Am. Standard	14 3/8	14 1/8	Gen. Foods	10 1/2
Am. Standard	14 3/8	14 1/8	Gen. Foods	10 1/2

NYSE cotton climbs by 125 points
New York, May 31.—COTTON futures in a contract fell from 23.00 to 23.25. The market recovered to 23.75 by 1:10. Cotton futures in a contract fell from 23.00 to 23.25. The market recovered to 23.75 by 1:10. Cotton futures in a contract fell from 23.00 to 23.25. The market recovered to 23.75 by 1:10. Cotton futures in a contract fell from 23.00 to 23.25. The market recovered to 23.75 by 1:10.

French loss by Jas Scott soars as talks on help fail

Weighed down at half-time by its French losses, the hopes of the Glasgow-based James Scott Engineering Group resolving this by reduced commitments there have been dashed with the news that the French courts have appointed, at the 65-per cent-owned subsidiary's request, a judicial administrator.
At half-way the losses there amounted to some £250,000. The Scott board was then negotiating with financial companies to ease the problem, but there was no satisfactory conclusion to the talks. On the information at present available the directors consider that a write-off of about £200,000 should now be made. If this, £519,000, has already been taken up in the interim figures (which showed a pre-tax loss of £300,000 against a profit of £170,000).
The directors expect to present preliminary full-time results for the year to January 31 in a few weeks. Indications are that, excluding France, trading figures will show an improvement over the preceding year.
A further statement of the position in France will be made then.

Strike knocks Greening

But for a three-month local strike profits of N. Greening, wire makers (in which Jessel Securities has a 15.5 per cent stake) could have been at record levels.
In the event, after an 80 per cent surge in the first half the full year's return to March 31 shows a decline from £983,000 to £801,000. The year's profit was £298,000, against £532,000 previously. The strike and the three-day week upheaval caused a serious production loss; but orders now on hand are at

Amalgamated Power

Amalgamated Power Engineering is based in Bedford, and not Bradford, as stated in yesterday's issue.

Briefly

BARTON TRANSPORT
Operating loss of £76,000 for first 54 weeks against loss of £28,000. Surplus on sale of vehicles of £97,000 (£28,000). Pre-tax profit £29,000 (£6,000).
BRADLAW STORES
On turnover of £16.8m (£12.46m) pre-tax profit £1.7m against £1.72m. Pre-tax earnings of 61.65c against 22.34c.

Albert Fisher Group

Contracts exchanged with Mr. Michael Beyer by which he will acquire the whole of Michael Bean (Market Gardeners) for £57,000 cash.

Beyer challenges Moore's aims

Mr Christopher Bland, managing-director of Beyer, Peacock, says in a letter to members that they have a right to know more about the company which is seeking to dominate its board and intervene in its business. But the circular from Moore Holdings (1973) and that those for second hand will show reasonable improvement.

J Crowther rallies, but outlook more subdued

Thoroughly in tune with the buoyant outlook expressed in October, the John Crowther Group shows a big turnaround to profits in 1973 against the preceding 17-month period. However, a somewhat sceptical prognosis on the current year takes off some of the shine and the share price in consequence shed 2p to 60p.
Trading profit before tax came to £325,000 (against £23,000 for 17 months of the previous year). Net profit was £240,000 (loss of £11,000). After an extraordinary credit of £218,000—disposal of the Workington factory—compared with a debit of £17,000, profit amounted to £452,000 against a loss of £28,000. The year's payment is 0.67p compared with 0.925p for the longer period.
Mr. Joe Hyman, chairman, referring to 1974, says that notwithstanding the shorter week, sales for the first four months to end-April are within 10 per cent of the same period. Orders on hand are at a similar level. As yet, the additional capacity installed in the latter part of 1973 is still not in full pay, because of the curtailed working week and general economic uncertainties.

Amal Industrial over £1m pre-tax

Amalgamated Industrial, the new grouping formed of S. & H. P. Smith and Britannia Holdings, reports almost trebled taxable profits of £1.1m for last year. But because of the 1972 reorganization a comparison is not straightforward.
As forecast, shareholders are to receive a final payment of 0.78p, making a total of 1.53p; nothing was paid in 1972 because of expenditure on the re-organizing.

J. Smart margins cut

Inflation, material shortages and industrial unrest at the works of certain suppliers have combined to cut the margins of J. Smart & Co. (contractors), the Edinburgh-based building and public works contractors. In face of this the board predicts pre-tax profits of about £483,000 which compares with £522,000 last year. This will include £14,000 profit on the sale of investments against £57,000. An interim dividend of 1.12p (1.07p) has been declared and the board forecasts a total of 4.13p against 3.95p.

Hill Samuel Dollar TST

Income distribution is 0.66p for six months and 0.3p payable on May 31. High degree of liquidity being maintained, so as to take advantage of next bull market.

ALLIED IRISH BANKS

Chairman expects group to grow in profits and assets, although affected by official attitude to credit expansion. Ireland was among few European countries with prospects of real growth in 1974.

INTERNATIONAL PAPER

Company said its British subsidiary, International Paper Containers (UK) acquired Chambers Packaging of Winstone, a unit of BPI industries, for an undisclosed amount of cash.

NOTTINGHAM BRICK

Interim dividend cut from 5p to 4.7p and pre-tax profit for half year from £14,000 to £7,000.

After a broken marriage

Whenever forms of gift tax may be introduced in the future, it is quite clear that the policy would have a larger estate at death is necessary. So, whatever life insurance is in force, to benefit a wife after her husband's death, the policy should be assigned to her. In any case, the husband should be aware of the various ways in which this can be achieved. For example, a wife can take out a policy on her husband's life. This is a paid-up policy and the husband's death would result in a lump sum which would be paid to the wife, by-passing the normal route of inheritance tax. However, there are various ways in which this can be achieved. For example, a wife can take out a policy on her husband's life. This is a paid-up policy and the husband's death would result in a lump sum which would be paid to the wife, by-passing the normal route of inheritance tax.

A safe investment

Units available at 25.2p until Thursday 6th June 1974 (or the daily price if lower)
Telephone orders will be accepted up to 5.00 pm on Wednesdays. Reports will be issued annually on 15th August. A 5% initial charge is included in the price. An annual fee of 0.5% is deducted from gross income. 1% commission is paid in agents' units will be collected at the net price of this issue.

Application form to invest in Lawson Gilt and Warrant Fund
(not available to residents of the Republic of Eire)
To: Lawson Securities Ltd, 63 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2JG Tel: 031-226 3911
If we enclose a remittance payable to Lawson Securities Ltd to be invested in accumulation units to the value of (£ units will be allocated to the nearest whole number) £
I/We declare that I/any of us are not resident outside the scheduled territories and I/any of us are not acquiring the units as the nominee(s) of any person(s) resident outside those territories. (Those unable to make this declaration should apply through their Bank, Stockbroker or Solicitor in the UK.)
(Min holding £100)
signature _____ signature 2
First Names (Mr/Ms/Ms) _____ Surname _____
Address _____
GWS Lt 1.6.74

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ADVERTISING section with various notices and classified ads.

RUBY WEDDINGS section listing anniversary celebrations.

DEATHS section listing recent obituaries.

ANNOUNCEMENTS section for various events and notices.

UK HOLIDAYS section providing travel information.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS section with vacation listings.

THE CORFU EXPERTS section for island travel.

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PEGASUS CARIBBEAN section for Caribbean holidays.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 13,702 with grid and clues.

ANNOUNCEMENTS section for various events and notices.

UK HOLIDAYS section providing travel information.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS section with vacation listings.

THE CORFU EXPERTS section for island travel.

PEGASUS CARIBBEAN section for Caribbean holidays.

ISLE OF LUXURY section for high-end travel.

